

### **Bipartisan support for open space**

Conservative Republicans and liberal Democrats agree ... tax incentives for private land conservation are good for America.

In this era of extreme partisanship and constant bickering between Democrats and Republicans in Congress, a breath of fresh air emerged last month as a majority of both parties have agreed to co-sponsor legislation in the House of Representatives to provide enhanced tax incentives for private land owners who place their land in conservation easement.

The announcement was made that over 300 co-sponsors from both parties have agreed to tax reduction for private landowners to encourage voluntary land conservation; 125 House Republicans and 176 House Democrats from 47 states have joined together to co-sponsor the Conservation Easement Incentive Act, H.R.1964.

No other tax bill currently being considered in Congress has as much bi-partisan support.

Both of Colorado's Western Slope representatives in the House, Republican Scott Tipton and Democrat Jared Polis, have co-sponsored this important tax measure.

If Tipton and Polis agree on this as a positive measure, then all of us in Eagle County should support and celebrate this bill.

Land conservation and protecting open space is obviously something we all can agree on! This is a win-win for everyone.

Thank you to Rep. Tipton and Rep. Polis for supporting a measure that has positive impacts for Eagle County and for our nation.

I encourage everyone to contact our local repre-

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sentatives in Congress to encourage them to pass this bill to promote local land conservation and the protection of open space.

**Tom Steinberg** Vail