



IN THIS ISSUE:

September 8, 2009

Congress Reconvenes

CONGRESS RECONVENES

Congress reconvenes this week and President Obama is scheduled to address a joint session with live television coverage on Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00 PM local time. Health Care will be the topic. The Chamber has attempted to secure time either in person or via video conference with Senators Bennett and Udall and Representative Salazar to discuss the small business perspective on various proposals. We have not yet had a definitive response to those requests. In the meantime the Chamber has signed onto the U.S Chamber's efforts to oppose a public option for health care and slow down the process to insure that all options in health care reform are considered. To view the Chamber's complete health care policy guidelines [click here](#).

(http://www.gjchamber.org/govaffairs/legislative_updates.asp)

Card Check Legislation Update

CARD CHECK LEGISLATION UPDATE

To coincide with Labor Day and the Annual AFL-CIO Convention labor groups are planning a major media blitz and potentially a lobbying day on Capitol Hill in support of the Employee Free Choice Act. There are still 226 co-sponsors in the House including Representative John Salazar. While the bill has been amended to keep the secret ballot it came at a cost. "Ambush elections" or speedy elections would now be allowed effectively hampering management's ability to respond in time to impact elections. To read more about the current status of the bill [click here](#).

(Politico http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0809/26649_Page2.html)

Can You Balance The Budget?

CAN YOU BALANCE THE BUDGET?

Think you could do a better job of balancing the Colorado State Budget? Well, now you can find out. The Colorado Backseat Budgeter an online website was developed by Colorado State University's Bighorn Leadership Development Program, which offers courses and training on state public policy issues. The site gives you the opportunity to try your hand at making cuts and increasing revenues but beware. It will also let you know when your selections run counter to constitutional limits. To use the backseat budgeter [click here](#).

(<http://engagedpublic.com/epbudgets/dashboard.aspx>)

Inside Mesa County

Upcoming Chamber Activity

KEEP UP TO DATE ON LEGISLATION THE CHAMBER IS TRACKING
CLICK [HERE](#)

INSIDE MESA COUNTY OFFERED

Inside Mesa County is a FREE 5-week course to inform residents about how their local government functions, and the many ways Mesa County touches their lives.

The next class runs from **October 6th to November 5th**, generally meeting on **Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** A light dinner will be served each evening. Most of the optional tours take place over the lunch hour. Residents are encouraged to come learn with us! **Applications are due by September 21st.** You can find an application on the Mesa County website by [clicking here](#).

(<http://www.gjchamber.org/forms/InsideMesaCounty09.pdf>)

UPCOMING CHAMBER ACTIVITY

China Trip Orientation—find out all you need to know about this exciting trip September 15th, 4:00 PM at the Chamber. For a brochure, [click here](#).

(<http://www.gjchamber.org/forms/ChinaBrochure2010.pdf>)

Energy Briefing—Major Industry Players Discuss Future Natural Gas Activity September 16, 7:30 AM at the Chamber. Register by [clicking here](#).

(<http://events.gjchamber.org>)

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