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Senate Chamber  
State of Colorado  
Denver

EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
CHAIR

JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
MEMBER

November 27, 2013

Cindi Markwell  
Secretary of the Senate  
200 E. Colfax Ave.  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Madam Secretary:

One year ago, on the day before Thanksgiving 2012, I was informed that all the ballots had been counted and I had won reelection to the State Senate with 35,664 votes. I was thankful for the opportunity to spend the next four years of my life serving the people of Colorado and fighting for middle-class jobs, high-quality educational opportunities, and public safety. However, now on the day before Thanksgiving 2013, in the interest of preserving the progress made over the last year, I am resigning as State Senator for District 19, effective immediately.

This decision has been difficult to make. I believe I have listened closely to the ideas and concerns of my constituents in the past five years, both through the over-100 town hall meetings and community coffees I have hosted, and in the thousands of emails and phone calls from engaged citizens in my community. Together we have made great progress finding solutions to the many challenges facing Colorado.

In 2013, we worked to pass a robust job-creation agenda, which included the passage of the "Keep Jobs in Colorado Act." We worked to expand opportunities for all kids – preschool through post-secondary – to get a high-quality education. We worked to protect our most vulnerable citizens, especially seniors, which included my bill SB 13-111 to require reporting of elder abuse.

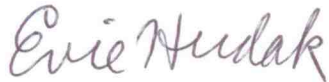
We also worked to pass sensible gun-safety legislation. Most Coloradans believe that going through a background check is a reasonable thing to do if it means we can keep guns out of the hands of violent criminals. Most Coloradans believe that the convenience of high-capacity ammunition magazines is less important than saving lives in tragedies like Sandy Hook, Aurora, and Columbine. Most Coloradans believe that people under restraining orders for domestic abuse should not be able to endanger those around them by keeping their guns. That's why I sponsored SB 13-197, a bill that takes guns out of the hands of domestic abusers and will save the lives of many women caught in abusive relationships. I am proud of what has been accomplished over the last year, and I believe these bills will make life better for all the people of my district and for all Coloradans.

By resigning, I am protecting these important new laws for the good of Colorado and ensuring that we can continue looking forward.

By resigning, I am making sure that Jefferson County taxpayers aren't forced to pay more than \$200,000 for a special election, especially after Jeffco has slashed funding for the Senior Resource Center by \$400,000, for the Jefferson Center for Mental Health by \$163,000, and for Family Tree by \$125,000. I cannot allow these cuts to grow deeper.

Though it is difficult to step aside, I have faith that my colleagues will honor the legacy my constituents and I have built. I am thankful to my fellow legislators who have been so supportive in recent weeks, standing by my side and encouraging me to keep fighting. I am especially thankful to the many volunteers who have been out in the district day after day talking about all of the good things we've done for Colorado.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Evie Hudak". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Evie Hudak