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MINORITY LEADER

Member:
Executive Committee of
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Committee

COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
DENVER
80203

October 13, 2011

Senator Lois Tochtrop, Chairman
Colorado Legislative Audit Committee
200 East Colfax Avenue, Suite 346
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Senator Tochtrop:

Recent reports on the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment have stated that there has been an overpayment of \$305 million of unemployment benefits in recent years, more than half of that total in 2010 alone. This should be of concern to every Coloradan.

Given the state of Colorado's budget in general and its unemployment trust fund specifically, these types of overpayments cannot happen.

We have an obligation to make sure we fully understand the extent of the problem. Knowing that the Legislative Audit Committee is already doing an audit of the Department, I request that it include in the review:

how these overpayments happened, and
make recommendations that insure these types of overpayments do not happen going forward.

Sincerely,

Sal Pace
State Representative
House District 46

cc: Representative Cindy Acree
Representative Deb Gardner
Senator Lucia Guzman
Representative James Kerr
Senator Steve King
Representative Joe Miklosi
Senator Scott Renfroe
Colorado State Auditor Diane Ray