

## Scott Tipton (CO-03) Research Book

The following report contains research on Scott Tipton, the Republican incumbent from Colorado's Third Congressional District. Research for this research book was conducted by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's Research Department between April and June 2011.

By accepting this report, you are accepting responsibility for all information and analysis included.  
Therefore, it is your responsibility to verify all claims against the original documentation before you make use of it.

Make sure you understand the facts behind our conclusions before making any specific charges against anyone.

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# Biography

This section provides background information on Scott Tipton's personal life. Newspapers and media outlets – including the Cortez Journal, the Pueblo Chieftain, and the Durango Herald – a number of online resources, like Lexis-Nexis, as well as numerous documents recorded in multiple states, were consulted in preparation.

## Birth Date

Scott Randal Tipton was born on November 9, 1956 in Espanola, New Mexico. [Roll Call Candidate Biography, accessed 8/08/11]

### Tipton Claimed He Was Born in Cortez...

Tipton's official House webpage claims that Tipton was "born and raised in Cortez, Colorado." [[tipton.house.gov](http://tipton.house.gov); accessed 6/08/11]

### ... But Other Reports State Tipton Was Born Elsewhere

According to the Cortez Journal, in the early 1960s Scott Tipton and his family moved from New Mexico to Cortez. [Cortez Journal, 12/28/10]

The Denver Post reported that Tipton moved to Colorado when he was one year old, while the National Journal reported that Tipton moved to Cortez when he was three months old. [Denver Post, 10/29/06; National Journal Almanac, accessed 6/14/11]

*NOTE: It is unclear why these sources differ on the dates that Tipton moved to Colorado.*

## Religion

Tipton is a member of the Episcopalian Anglo Church. [Austin American-Statesman, 1/26/97]

## Education

The following outlines Tipton's education history from elementary school through college.

### 1970s: Attended Kindergarten Through High School in Cortez

Tipton attended kindergarten through 12th grade in Cortez. [The Cortez Journal, 12/28/10]

### 1974-1978: Attended Fort Lewis College

Between 1974 and 1978, Tipton attended Fort Lewis College in Durango, CO where he majored in political science.

Tipton was influenced by his high school government teacher Paul Leach to attend Fort Lewis College and major in political science.

“My folks always had the belief that they shared with me, that you had an obligation to be able to participate,” he said. “That’s what makes our republic work. So I had an interest in politics. Then I had Paul Leach, who was my government and history teacher in Cortez. I was incredibly inspired by him.” [The Cortez Journal, 12/28/10]

### **First Member of His Family to Attend College**

Tipton was the first member of his family to attend college. [National Journal Almanac, accessed 6/14/11]

### **1978: Intended on Law School after Undergraduate Education**

After graduating from Fort Lewis College, Tipton intended to attend law school.

“I graduated in August and then was looking at law school and my dad didn’t believe in taking a year off to discover yourself,” Tipton said. “He said, ‘Either you come up with something or I’ve got a shovel ready for you.’” [The Cortez Journal, 12/28/10]

*NOTE: There is no evidence that Tipton attended law school.*

## **Family**

Scott Tipton is married to Jean Marie Tipton. He has two daughters, Liesel and Elizabeth. [The Cortez Journal, 2/13/10]



*From left: Liesel Tipton Ross, Christopher Ross, Jean Tipton, Scott Tipton, and Elizabeth Tipton*

## **Professional Career**

The following outlines Scott Tipton’s professional career and work in the private sector.

### **1979-Current: Owner of Mesa Verde Pottery Company**

In 1997, Tipton was the owner of a pottery company called Mesa Verde Indian Trading Company & Gallery. The gallery represented about 400 native potters, including pueblo artists. Pieces in Tipton's collection were valued from \$5 to \$32,000. [[Austin American-Statesman](#), 1/26/97]

*NOTE: Please refer to the Business Section for further information regarding Mesa Verde Pottery Company*

#### **Tipton: “Mesa Verde Pottery... the Story of a Small-Businessman”**

In 2010, Tipton, in an interview with [The Durango Herald](#), said that his business Mesa Verde Pottery was “the story of a small-businessman.”

“A friend of mine had worked with Grand Canyon (National Park), and they weren't being supplied with product, so he wanted to know if I was interested in starting a business. We started it, he died that same year, and I brought my brother in as a partner. That was 1979. We just grew it from the ground up. I've done that for the past 31 years now, and been very hands-on. Outside of artwork - because what we sell is done by Native Americans - I've done everything down there. It's the story of a small-businessman.” [[Durango Herald](#), 7/12/10]

#### **Asked Medicine Man to Bless His Store**

In 1997, it was reported that Tipton, a self described Anglo Episcopalian, had followed an artist's advice and asked a tribal medicine man to conduct blessing ceremonies in the workplace every spring and fall. [[Austin American-Statesman](#), 1/26/97]

### **1979-Current: President of Tipton Limited**

Since 1979, Scott Tipton has been the president of Tipton Limited. [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 6/09/11]

*NOTE: Please refer to the Business Section for further information regarding Mesa Verde Company*

#### **1989-Current: President of Tipton Properties**

Since 1989, Scott Tipton has been the president of Tipton Properties. [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 6/09/11]

*NOTE: Please refer to the Business Section for further information regarding Tipton Properties*

### **1996-2001: Board Member of West Slope Investments, LLC**

From 1996 to 2001, Scott Tipton was on the board of directors of West Slope Investments, LLC. [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 6/09/11]

*NOTE: Please refer to the Business Section for further information regarding West Slope Investments LLC*

### **1998: Elected to the Board of Directors of Vectra Bank Colorado**

In 1998, Tipton was elected to the Board of Directors for Vectra Bank Colorado. [[Denver Post](#), 11/09/98]

*NOTE: Please refer to the Business Section for further information regarding Vectra Bank Colorado*

#### **Claimed He Was “Not Serving on a Bank Board”**

In 2010, during an interview on Fox news, Tipton claimed to have never served on a bank board.

“You know, I served on Vectra Bank Colorado, and it was four years ago. I was not serving on a bank board and Vectra never received direct stimulus money. That was through the parent corporation, Zion. But I certainly didn’t profit.” [Fox News Channel “Happening Now” Interview, 10/14/10]

#### **....While Receiving Dividends from Zions Bancorp**

At the time of Tipton’s 2010 statement, Tipton jointly held over \$15,000 in Zions Bancorporation stock and received dividends from his ownership. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **1999-Current: Four Way Company**

In 1999, Scott Tipton inherited Four Way Company, Inc., from his father Joe D. Tipton. Scott Tipton owns a 24.59 percent share of the property. [Personal Representative’s Deed from San Juan County Clerk’s office, signed 3/29/1999; Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009 and 2010]

*NOTE: Please refer to the Business Section for further information regarding Four Way Company*

#### **Non-Profit Involvement**

The following outlines Scott Tipton’s community involvement and work in the non-profit sector.

### **1997-2004: Member of the Pueblo Community College Advisory Council**

From 1997 to 2004 Tipton served as a member of the Pueblo Community College Advisory Council. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/04/98; [Cortez Journal](#), 10/18/08; [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/28/997]

### **2008-Current: Served on the Board of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center**

Scott Tipton served on the board of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. [[Cortez Journal](#), 10/18/08; 2010 Personal Financial Disclosure]

## **1997-Current: Established the Mesa Verde Foundation**

In 1997, Tipton, along with John Low and Richard Conn, established The Mesa Verde Foundation.

In September of 2006, the foundation held a fundraiser to support the Mesa Verde National Park. [Rocky Mountain News, 8/28/06; Cortez Journal, 10/18/08]

### **Wanted To Build a Museum Near the Entrance to Mesa Verde National Park**

In October 2001, it was reported in The Durango Herald that Scott Tipton was a board member of the Mesa Verde Foundation. One of the stated goals of the foundation was to build a museum near the entrance of Mesa Verde National Park on Highway 160. The estimated cost of the museum was around \$50 million dollars. [Durango Herald, 10/02/01]

### **Established the 100 Club of Montezuma County**

Scott Tipton served on the board of the 100 Club of Montezuma County. [Cortez Journal, 10/18/08]

Montezuma County's 100 Club was "an organization dedicated to providing for the families of our first responders who are injured or killed in the line of duty." [Denver Post, 10/29/06]

## **Community Activism**

The following section outlines Scott Tipton's community activism, be it political or economic, within his local community.

### **1997: Member of the Montezuma County Economic Development Council**

In 1997, Tipton was a member of the Montezuma County Economic Development Council. [Pueblo Chieftain, 1/28/97]

### **2003: Founding Member of the Mesa Verde Aerial Tramway Steering Committee**

In August 2003, Scott Tipton was one of the leaders of a steering committee that wanted to build a gondola lift as an alternative means of entering Mesa Verde National Park.

In 2002, the committee supported discussion about the gondola and formatted a mission statement that was submitted to national park planners at Mesa Verde.

"The goal of this project is to develop an economically viable, environmentally and culturally sensitive aerial transportation system connecting Mesa Verde National Park and the City of Cortez, Colorado. Having the objective of improving access and enhancing the archeological experience of visitors to Mesa Verde National Park and the Four Corners Region." [Cortez Journal, 8/16/03]

### **Estimated Project Cost Was \$35-50 Million**

In August 2003, the proposed cost of the tramway Tipton advocated for was an estimated \$35-50 million dollars. [[Cortez Journal](#), 8/30/03]

### **Tipton: Community Would “Benefit” from Tramway**

In September 2003, Tipton suggested that the area would benefit from having a tramway installed between Cortez and Mesa Verde National park.

“Tourism plays a big role,” he said. “Colorado was once third in the nation for bringing in tourism dollars, and now we’re 22nd. I think it would benefit to have a one way in and one way out of the park.” [[Cortez Journal](#), 9/9/03]

### **Tramway Would Drain Tourism from Mancos**

In September 2003, proponents of building a tramway from Cortez were told by the Mayor of Mancos that the tramway would hurt the tourism industry in Mancos.

The mayor and one trustee indicated they were not likely to vote for a project that is so Cortez-centered that it would be likely to drain tourism business from Mancos. The trammers were also rebuked for planning the project for a year and a half without involving Mancos. [[Cortez Journal](#), 9/13/03; [Durango Herald](#), 9/14/03]

### **2006: Joined Club 20 on Legislative Trip**

In January 2006, Scott Tipton joined Club 20 in the clubs annual legislative trip to Denver in lobbying the state legislature.

[The Cortez Journal](#) describes Club 20 as “the 54-year old coalition of the individuals, businesses, organizations and towns in Western Colorado’s 22 counties, and exists to advocate for the interests of this region on both the state and national level.”

The trip focused on discussing issues of energy development, wildlife and forest management, as well as Colorado’s budget and economic future. [[Cortez Journal](#), 1/26/06]

### **Former President of the Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce**

In 1997, Scott Tipton was mentioned in [The Pueblo Chieftain](#) as the former President of the Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/28/97]

### **Criminal Record**

As of 2011, there was evidence of Scott Tipton being pulled over for speeding in 1977. Tipton was also issued a citation for having expired license plates in 1986. [County Court of Montezuma County, 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District; Montezuma County District Court, accessed 5/27/11; Montezuma County Court, accessed 5/27/11; La Plata County Court, accessed 5/26/11; Eleventh Judicial District Court of New Mexico, accessed 5/25/11; Colorado Courts Public Record Search, accessed 6/21/11]

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO	77	T	770
VS.	Case No. Kent Williamson		
<u>SCOTT RANDALL TIPTON</u>	Defendant		
<u>702 Arbor Street</u>	Address	DOB 11/9/56	
<u>Cortez, Colorado 81321</u>	Division/Judge	Armstrong	
Charges Speeding - 65 in a 55			
Summons # 1340057	Date Issued	8/9/77	
Complaining Officer M. Northrup			
Bond Filed	Type		
First Appearance 9/19/77	9/26/77		
<i>10/7/77 Amended 64 in 55, NO. trial 10/7/77 J/P \$25.00 Costs 8.00</i>			
<i>Date 10/11/77 Fine 25<sup>00</sup> Costs 8<sup>00</sup> R-8292</i>			
Bench warrant issued	Quashed	Vacated	
<input type="checkbox"/> Case Closed:			

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF COLORADO VS.	86T 0142
<b>Scott Randall Tipton</b>	Case #
<b>13552 County Road 26</b>	Aiken
<b>Cortez, CO 81321</b>	Division/Judge/Referee
<b>DOB 11/09/56</b>	DEFENDANT, Name, address, DOB
Complaint Filed 2/07/86	Bond \$
Summons Issued 2/05/86	# 0124
Complaining Officer G. Stevens, CPD	
First appearance 2/25/86	
Continued to 2/25/86, Closest	
Continued to	
Charge Statute Offense Description	
#1 42-3-114 Expired license plates	
#2	
#3	
#4	
#5	

[County Court of Montezuma County, 22<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District]

### Sued for Water Rights in Order to Stock His Pond

In 1996, Scott Tipton applied for water rights near Tipton Ditch to build a stock pond. Water rights for that pond were approved conditionally. [District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 96CW71]

In 2004, Tipton applied for permanent water rights near Tipton Ditch where a stock pond was built. In 2004, Tipton was sued by the Dolores Water Conservancy District. The Dolores Water Conservancy District claimed that they owned water rights in the area and that their rights would be damaged if proper protections were not put in place. [District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 96CW71, District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 03CW93, accessed 5/27/11]

### Case Was Dismissed Over Failure to Pay Publication Costs

In December 2004, Tipton's application for permanent water rights near the Tipton Ditch for building a stock pond was dismissed. According to court records, Tipton was ordered to pay \$35.81 by September 17, 2004. His failure to do so lead to his case being dismissed by Water Judge Gregory Lyman. [District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 03CW93, accessed 5/27/11]

## Bankruptcy Filings

As of 2011, there was no evidence that Scott Tipton had ever filed for bankruptcy. [Montezuma County District Court, accessed 5/27/11; Montezuma County Court, accessed 5/27/11; La Plata County Court, accessed 5/26/11; Eleventh Judicial District Court of New Mexico, accessed 5/25/11; Colorado Courts Public Record Search, accessed 6/21/11]

## Voting History

Since 1974, Scott Tipton has been a registered member of the Republican Party. His registration status is listed as active.

<u><b>Voter Information</b></u>					
Voter Name:	SCOTT R TIPTON				
Residential Address:	13552 ROAD 26, CORTEZ, CO 81321				
Mailing Address:	13552 COUNTY RD 26, CORTEZ, CO 81321 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA				
Birth Year:	1956				
<u><b>Registration Information</b></u>					
Voter Id:	4876256				
Registration Status:	Active				
Date of Registration:	11/11/1974				
Permanent Mail-In:	N				
Party Affiliation:	Republican				
Date of Affiliation:	11/11/1974				
County of Registration:					
<u><b>Location</b></u>					
#	<u>Election</u>	<u>Election Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Voting Center</u>
<u><b>District Information</b></u>					
#	<u>District Type</u>		<u>District Name</u>		
1	CEMETERY		Cortez Cemetery District		
2	CONGRESSIONAL		CONGRESSIONAL 3		
3	CONSERVATION DISTRICT		Dolores Conservation District		
4	COUNTY COMMISSIONER		Commissioner District 2		
5	COUNTYWIDE		Montezuma		
6	FEDERAL		Federal District		
7	FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT		Cortez Fire Protection District		
8	HOSPITAL AUTHORITY		MONTEZUMA COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT		
9	JUDICIAL		JUDICIAL 22		
10	METRO DISTRICT		Montezuma Mosquito Control District		
11	MUNICIPALITY		Cortez Out		

[Colorado Secretary of State Election Records, accessed 6/27/11]

Below is a record of elections which Scott Tipton has voted in.

Voting History						
History is only available for certified elections						
Search						
Election Date	From	01/01/1978	To	01/01/2010	Search	
11/04/2008	2008 GENERAL ELECTION	PCT 4-CEM		Voted	Early Voting	Montezuma
08/12/2008	2008 STATEWIDE PRIMARY	R-58-PCT 4	Republican	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
11/06/2007	11/06/2007.COORDINATE...	42	NO DATA	Voted	Mail Ballot	Montezuma
11/07/2006	11/07/2006.GENERAL ELE...	15	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
08/08/2006	08/08/2006.STATEWIDE P...	44	REPUBLICAN	Voted	Early Voting	Montezuma
11/01/2005	11/01/2005.COORDINATE...	72	NO DATA	Voted	Mail Ballot	Montezuma
11/02/2004	11/02/2004.GENERAL ELE...	25	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
08/10/2004	08/10/2004.STATEWIDE P...	18	REPUBLICAN	Voted	Absentee Mail	Montezuma
11/04/2003	11/04/2003.COORDINATE...	12	NO DATA	Voted	Mail Ballot	Montezuma
11/05/2002	11/05/2002.GENERAL ELE...	35	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
08/13/2002	08/13/2002.STATEWIDE P...	15	REPUBLICAN	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
11/07/2000	11/07/2000.GENERAL ELE...	25	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
08/08/2000	08/08/2000.STATEWIDE P...	15	REPUBLICAN	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
03/10/2000	03/10/2000.PRESIDENTIA...	05	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
11/02/1999	11/02/1999.COORDINATE...	05	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
11/03/1998	11/03/1998.GENERAL ELE...	05	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
08/11/1998	08/11/1998.STATEWIDE P...	05	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma
05/05/1998	05/05/1998.COORDINATE...	05	NO DATA	Voted	Polling Place	Montezuma

[Montezuma County Voter Records, accessed 2008]

## Tipton Property

**The following section is an overview of the property that Scott Tipton owns, both past and present. The section is divided between Scott Tipton's personal property and the property that Scott Tipton inherited.**

### Personal Property

The following outlines properties that Tipton has owned.

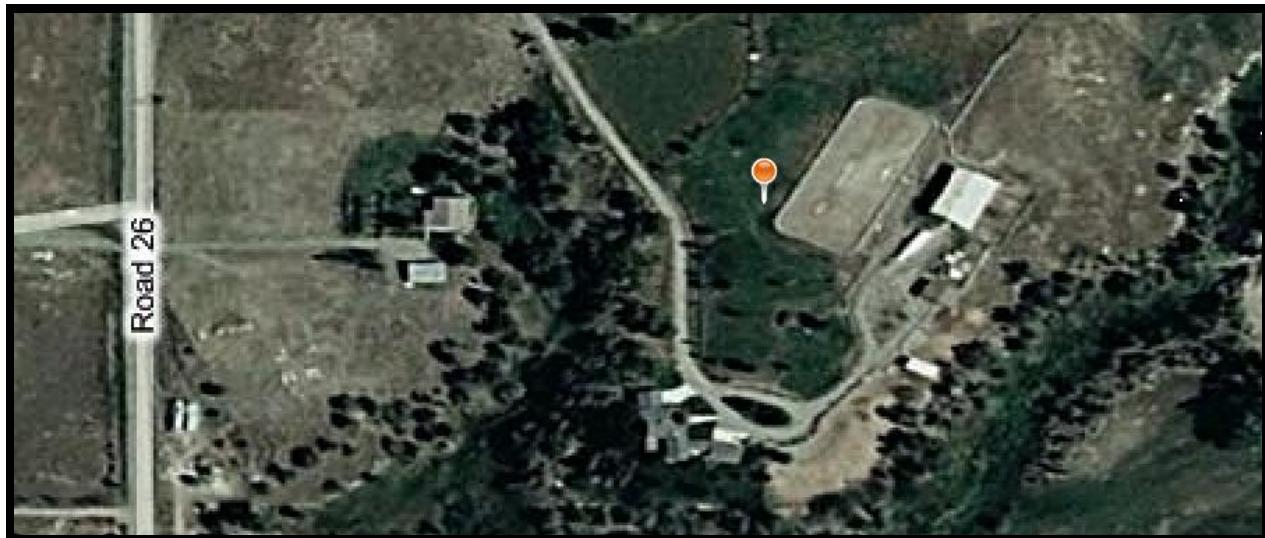
#### **1987-Current: Owned Home in Cortez, Colorado**

Scott Tipton lived at 13552 Road 26, Cortez, CO 81321. [Montezuma County Clerk, accessed 5/27/11]

In 2011, Tipton's home was valued at \$398,940. [Montezuma County Assessor, accessed 5/27/11]

#### **Property Taxes Were Paid on Time**

Since 2001, property taxes on Scott Tipton's home were paid on time. [Montezuma County Treasurer's Office, accessed 5/27/11]



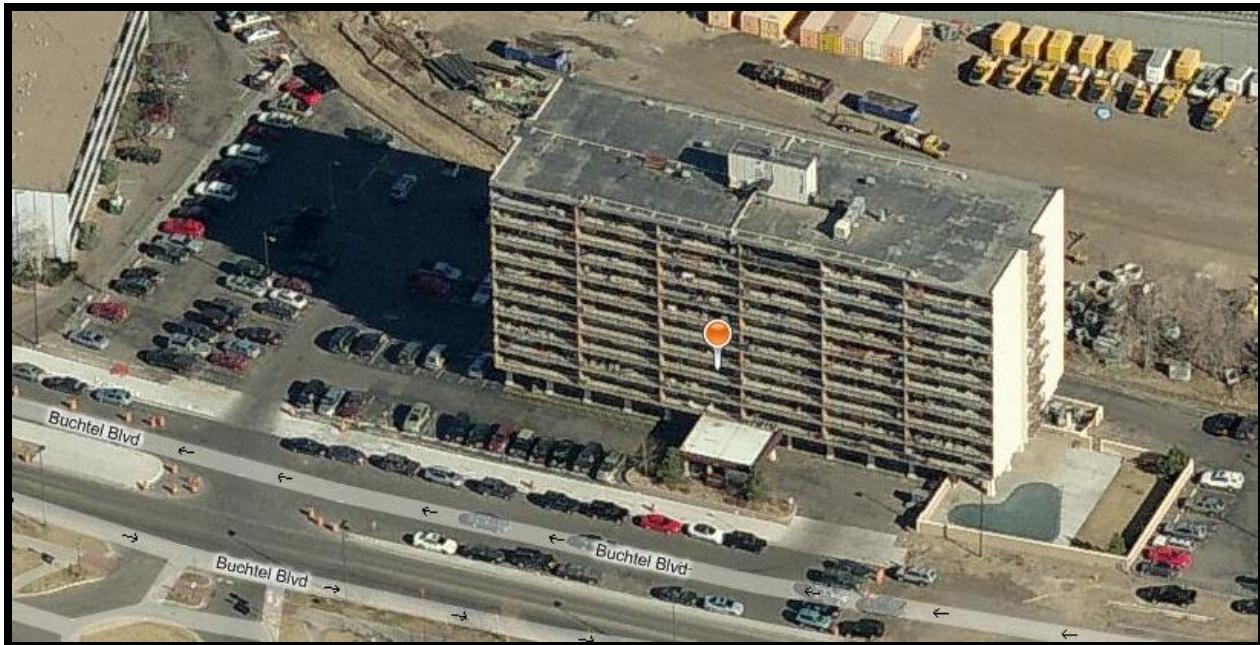
[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

#### **2006-Current: Owned Condominium in Denver, Colorado**

Since 2006, Tipton and his wife have owned a condominium at University Park Tower Condos, 2225 Buchtel Blvd 10001, Denver, CO, 80210. [Denver County Clerk Real Property Records, 6/21/06]

The sale price of the condominium was \$215,000 in 2006. [Denver County Clerk Real Property Records, last updated 5/05/11]

*Note: Complete property record information as well as property tax records have been requested from the Denver County recorder and treasurer.*



[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

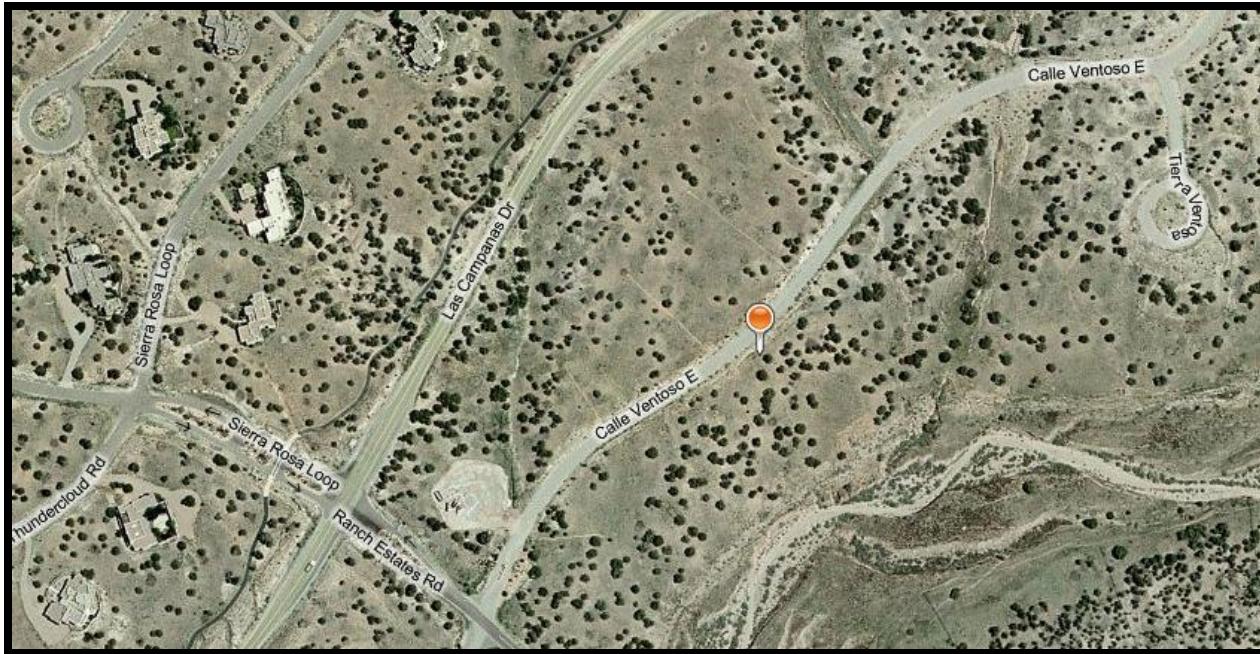
**2002-Current: Owned a Plot of Land in the Only Gated Golf Course Community in New Mexico**

Since 2002, Scott Tipton has owned a plot of land in Las Campanas Estates on the outskirts of Santa Fe New Mexico. According to homesantafe.com, “Las Campanas is the only gated golf course community not only in Santa Fe, but in all of New Mexico.”

The website goes on to describe the gated community as:

“Conceived by Lyle Anderson in the late 1980’s as an adjunct to his successful golf course community empire (Including Desert Highlands, Desert Mountain, Superstition Mountain, Hokuli’ā and Loch Lomond), Las Campanas is home to 2 Jack Nicklaus Signature Golf Courses, a World Class Equestrian Center, a Spa and Fitness Center, miles of walking paths, and an award winning Hacienda Clubhouse in Santa Fe, New Mexico.” [homesantafe.com, accessed [6/21/11](#); Santa Fe County Clerk’s office, Special Warranty Deed, accessed 5/23/11; Santa Fe County Assessor Land Activity History Report, prepared 5/23/11]

*Note: Property tax records have been requested*



[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

### **2007: Leased Land to Finney Land Company for Oil and Gas Exploration**

In February 2007, Scott Tipton leased a plot of land to Finney Land Co for oil and gas exploration. The land is located in Montezuma County, Colorado. The term of the lease is five years.  
[Montezuma County Recorder, Oil and Gas Lease, accessed 5/26/11]

*Note: Property tax records have been requested*

*Note: Evidence on how Scott Tipton acquired this piece of property could not be found. This is a result of a Personal Representative's Deed records for Joe D. Tipton in Montezuma County not being made available on account of sealed court records.*

### **Inherited Property**

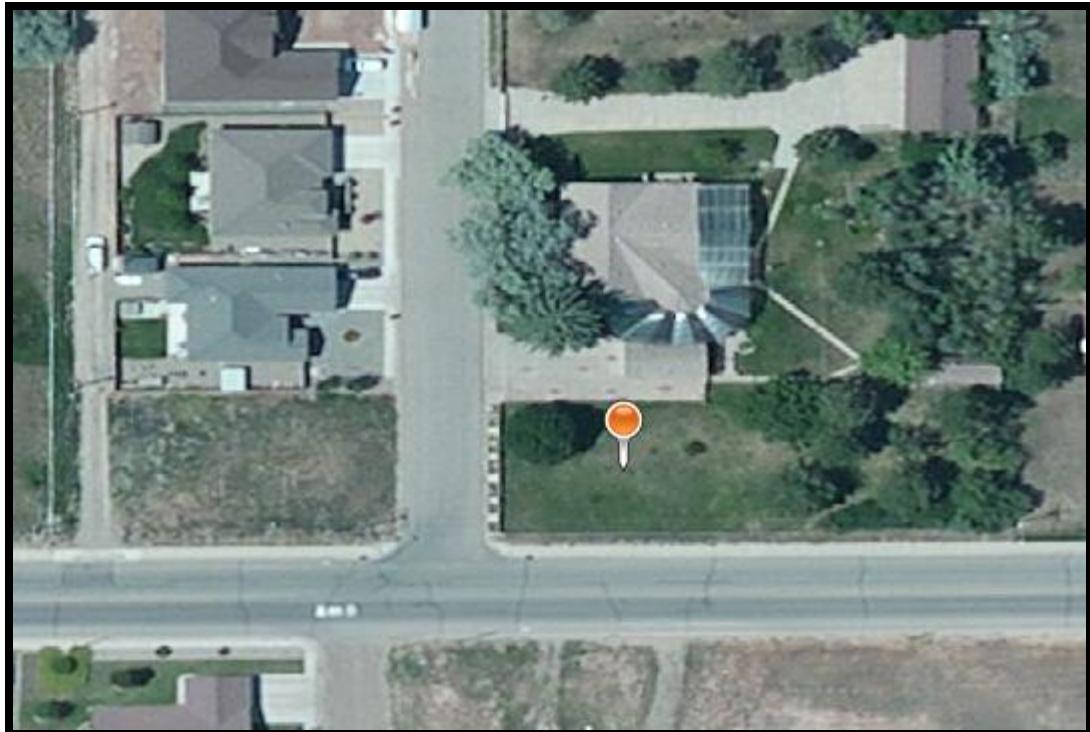
Below is a list of properties that Tipton inherited from family members after their passing.

#### **1996-Current: Inherited Property in Cortez, Colorado**

Since 1996, Scott Tipton has owned 702 and 710 Arbor St. in Cortez. He inherited these properties from Joe D. Tipton Sr. after he passed away. [Montezuma County Clerk Personal Representative Deed, accessed 6/21/11]

#### **Currently Collecting “Interest” from Property**

Scott Tipton’s 2010 personal financial disclosure showed Tipton collecting \$5,000 to \$15,000 in interest annually from 702 Arbor St. [Tipton PFD Report, 2010]



[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

### **1996-2000: Inherited, Then Sold, Property in Grand Junction, Colorado**

In 1996, Scott Tipton inherited from his father, Joe D. Tipton, a vacant plot of land at 2969 Eastview CT., Grand Junction, CO.

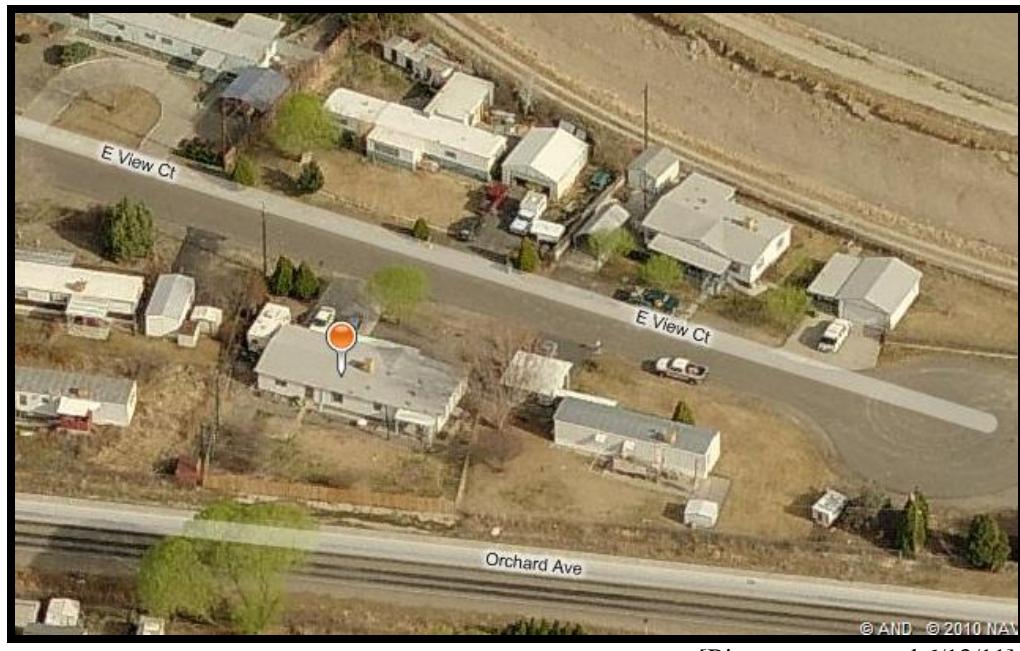
The land was previously owned by Henry L. Shields and was given to Joe D. Tipton without any exchange of money. [Mesa County Assessor Property Transfer Records, accessed 5/24/11]

After Joe D. Tipton's death, Scott R. Tipton and Joe D. Tipton Jr. inherited a 70 percent portion of these lots. [Mesa County Clerk Personal Representative's Deed]

Tipton owned the property from 1996 to 2000, at which time he sold the land to Pamela J. Thomas for \$72,000. [Mesa County Assessor Property Transfer Records, accessed 5/24/11]

#### **Property Taxes were Paid on Time**

From 1996 to 2000, treasurer records on this plot of land show that property taxes were paid on time. [La Plata County Treasurer's Office, accessed 5/26/11]



[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

### **1996-Various: Inherited and then Sold Properties in La Plata County, Colorado**

The following outlines the various properties that Tipton inherited from his father:

<b>Plot of Land</b>	<b>Year Inherited</b>	<b>Year Sold</b>	<b>Sale Value</b>
<b>Lot 47 in Forest Lakes- Durango</b>	July 1996	2002	\$12,000
<b>Lot 54 in Forest Lakes- Durango</b>	July 1996	2002	Not Available
<b>Lot 138 in Forest Lakes- Durango</b>	July 1996	2002	Not Available
<b>Lot 234 in Forest Lakes- Durango</b>	July 1996	2002	\$12,500
<b>Lot 279 in Forest Lakes- Durango</b>	July 1996	1999	\$12,500

[La Plata County Treasurer's Office, multiple warranty deeds, accessed 5/26/11]

## Tipton Family

Below is a section detailing Scott Tipton's immediate family. A key theme when looking at Tipton's family is the close-knit network of Tipton's business involvement and Tipton's family. As evidenced below, every business Tipton is affiliated with has at least one member of Tipton's family serving on the board or directors. Additionally, as the Broadnet section of the book details, there is evidence that Tipton uses his public office as a means to advance his own family's businesses and careers.

### Father, Joe D. Tipton Sr.

Joe D. Tipton was born October 24, 1924.

According to Social Security Death Records, Joe D. Tipton passed away July 28, 1996. [1930 United States Census, film #2339979; U.S. Social Security Death Index for Joe D. Tipton]

### Part Owner of Four Way Company Incorporated

In 1959, Four Way Company Incorporated was incorporated as a company in New Mexico. [New Mexico Secretary of State Records, Four Way Company, accessed 6/27/11]

The address listed for Four Way Company is 4000 Lomas St. Farmington, NM 87499. [New Mexico Secretary of State; New Mexico Clerk and Recorder, accessed 5/23/11]

### Four Way Company Granted Land to Joe D. Tipton and His Business Partners

In March 1995, a warranty deed evidences Four Way Company Incorporated gave a 15.53-acre plot of land in divided shares to Joe D. Tipton Sr. and his business partners. Joe Tipton was given a 24.59 percent share of the land. [San Juan County Clerk and Recorder, Warranty Deed, accessed 5/24/11]

### Joe D. Tipton was Listed as on the Board of Directors for Four Way Company

Records from the New Mexico Secretary of State's office show that Joe D. Tipton was a member of the board of directors and partial owner of Four Way Company, Inc. [New Mexico Secretary of State Records, Four Way Company, accessed 6/27/11]

### Scott Tipton and his Brother Inherited Joe D. Tipton's 24.59 Percent Share of Four Way Company

After the death of Joe D. Tipton Sr., Scott R. Tipton and Joe D. Tipton Jr. inherited a 24.59 percent share of the company. [San Juan County Clerk, Personal Representative's Deed, accessed 5/24/11]



[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

### **Co-founder of Triad Western Constructors**

In 1993, Joe D. Tipton served as a director and LLC manager for Triad Western Constructors.

The address listed for Triad Western Constructors is 512 N. Broadway, Cortez, CO 81321.  
[Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 6/21/11]

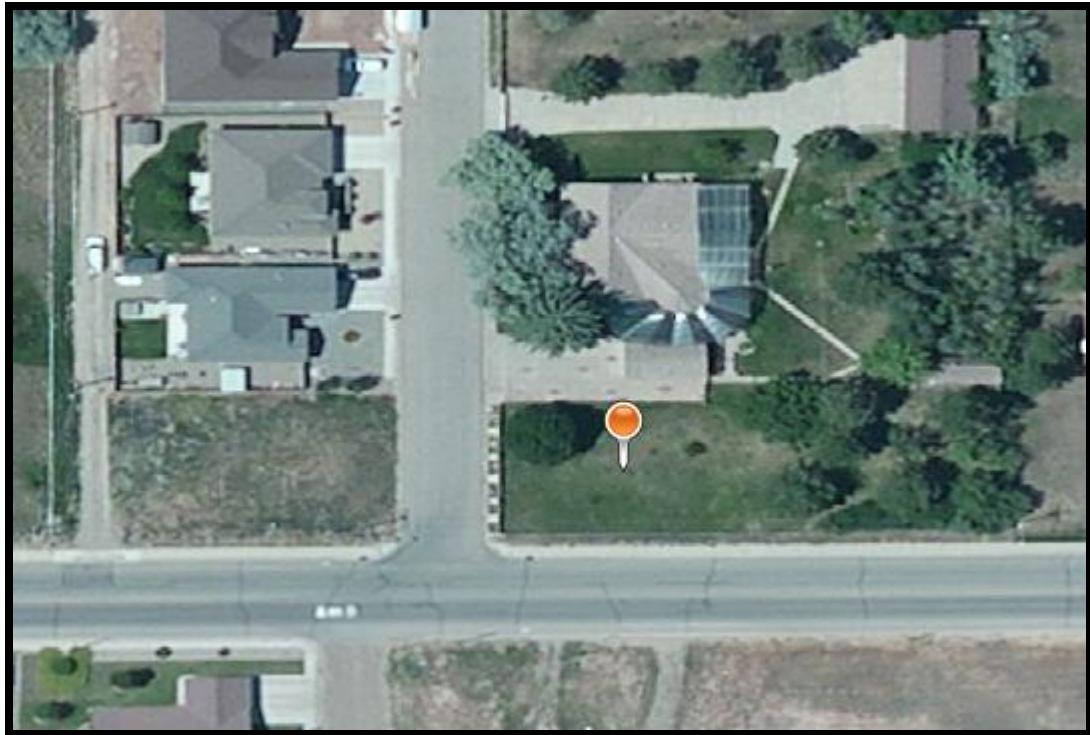


[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

### **Co-founder of West Slope Investments LLC**

In 1994, Joe D. Tipton was a co-founder of West Slope Investments, LLC.

The address listed for West Slope Investments, LLC was 702 Arbor St. Cortez, CO 81321.  
[Colorado Secretary of State Records for West Slope Investments LLC, accessed 6/21/11]



[Bing.com, accessed 6/13/11]

### **Co-founder of Alta Vista Land Company Inc.**

In 1984, Joe D. Tipton was co-incorporator of Alta Vista Land Company Inc.

The address listed for the Alta Vista Land Company is 512 N. Broadway, Cortez, CO 81321.  
[Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 6/15/11]

### **Owner of Property at 702 and 710 Arbor St. Cortez, CO 81321**

Joe D. Tipton owned property at 702 and 710 Arbor St. in Cortez. [multiple business records citing the above address as Joe D. Tipton's home]

After Joe D. Tipton Sr.'s passing, Scott R. Tipton and Joe D. Tipton Jr. inherited this property.  
[Montezuma County Clerk, Personal Representative Deed, accessed 6/21/11]

### **Owned Several Plots of Land in La Plata County**

Personal Representative Deed Records from the La Plata County Clerk's office show that Joe D. Tipton was a partial owner of multiple lots in the Forest Lakes- Durango area in La Plata County, Colorado. These lots were partially owned with Suzanne and Russell Johnson from Dolores, Colorado.

After his death, Scott R. Tipton and Joe D. Tipton Jr. inherited a 70 percent portion of these lots. [La Plata County Clerk, Persona Representative's Deed, accessed 5/24/11]

*Note: A complete list of the lots owned by Joe D. Tipton Sr. are listed above in the "Inherited Property" section of the book*

### **Owned a Plot of Land at 2969 Eastview CT., Grand Junction, CO**

According to records from the Mesa County, Colorado Assessor's office, Joe D. Tipton owned a plot of land at 2969 Eastview CT., Grand Junction, CO. The land was previously owned by Henry L. Shields and was given to Joe D. Tipton without any exchange of money. [Mesa County Assessor Property Transfer Records]

After his death, Scott R. Tipton and Joe D. Tipton Jr. inherited a 70 percent portion of these lots. [Mesa Count Clerk, Personal Representative's Deed, accessed 5/24/11]

*NOTE: 1930 Census records point to Henry L. Shields as Joe D. Tipton's uncle*

### **Mother, Patricia G. Tipton**

Patricia Grace Tipton was born April 22, 1926. She died in November 1994. [1930 U.S. Census Data]

### **Vice President of Tipton Properties**

In 1995, before her passing, Patricia Tipton was the Vice President of Tipton Properties. [Colorado Secretary of State, 1995]

### **Brother, Joe D. Tipton Jr.**

Joe D. Tipton Jr. is Scott Tipton's older brother. Joe Tipton was born in June 1951. [Lexis Nexus Public Records Search]

### **Sister-in-Law, Mary J. Tipton**

Joe D. Tipton married Mary J. Patterson in 1979. [Lexis Nexus Marriage Records]

### **Served on the Board of Directors for Tipton Limited**

In 1995, Merrie J. Tipton was listed as a member of the board of directors for Tipton Limited. [Colorado Secretary of State, records on Tipton Limited, 1995]

### **Wife, Jean Tipton**

Jean Tipton is Scott Tipton's wife. She was born in February 1956.

### **Retired School Teacher**

Jean Tipton is a retired schoolteacher. [tipton.house.gov, accessed 6/22/11]

### **Member of the Montezuma County Republican Women's Club**

In 2010, Jean Tipton was a member of the Montezuma County Republican Women's Club, [Cortez Journal, 2/13/10]

### **Served on the Board of Directors for Tipton Limited**

In 1995, Jean Tipton was listed as one of the members of the Board of Directors for Tipton Limited. [Colorado Secretary of State, records on Tipton Limited, 1995]

### **Uncle, Terry Raiff Gorsuch**

Terry Raiff Gorsuch is the Uncle of Scott Tipton. He was born August 6, 1941. He passed away June 4, 2010 at the age of 69. [Cortez Journal, 6/7/10]

### **Co-Founder of Triad Western Constructors**

In March 1984, Gorsuch was a co-founder of Triad Western Constructors. [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 7/12/11]

### **President of Triad Waste Management**

In March 1989, Gorsuch was the founder and president of Triad Waste Management Corporation. [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 7/12/11]

### **President of Alta Vista Land Company**

In October 1984, Gorsuch along with Aryol Brumley and Joe D. Tipton Sr. founded Alta Vista Land Company. [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 7/12/11]

### **Daughter, Liesel Tipton Ross**

Liesel is the oldest daughter of Scott and Jean Tipton. She graduated in 2008 from the University of Denver in international business.

She is married to Christopher Michael Ross, a member of the U.S. Air Force Academy. [Cortez Journal, 9/20/08]

### **Daughter, Elizabeth Tipton**

Elizabeth Tipton is the youngest daughter of Scott and Jean Tipton.

After graduating high school, she attended the Air Force Academy for a couple of years before transferring to Embry-Riddle in Prescott, AZ. She graduated in 2010 from Embry Riddle with a degree in aviation business administration.

### **Worked at Broadnet Telecommunication LLC**

Since January 2011, Elizabeth has been employed at Broadnet, a company owned by her cousin Steve Patterson. [[Cortez Journal, 5/26/07](#); [Cortez Journal, 5/26/09](#); [Denver Post, 5/28/11](#)]

*Note: Additional information regarding Elizabeth Tipton and her connection with Broadnet, including ethical issues concerning Scott Tipton, are found in the “Broadnet” section of the book.*

## Four Way Company

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Company had its license revoked in 2001*
- ✓ *Tipton's only income from Four Way Company is rent*
- ✓ *Company's value decreased from 2009 to 2010*

**In 1999, Tipton inherited Four Way Company from his father. The company does work in pipeline construction. As of 2001, the company has had its licensed revoked beyond repeal with the New Mexico Secretary of State. Tipton currently owns the land which Four Way Company sits and collects rent from that holding.**

### Part Owner of Four Way Company Incorporated

In 1999, Scott and his brother Joe Tipton inherited a 24.59 percent interest in the 15.53-acre plot piece of property that is Four Way Company. [Personal Representative's Deed from San Juan County Clerk's office, signed 3/29/1999]

Deed Records as well as records from the New Mexico Secretary of State's office show that Joe D. Tipton Sr. was the partial owner of Four Way Company, Inc. [San Juan County Clerk and Recorder Warranty Deed, accessed 5/24/11]

*NOTE: See Family section regarding Joe D. Tipton Sr.'s involvement with Four Way Company for a better understanding of why Scott Tipton inherited a plot of land that is Four Way Company.*

### Company Status Listed as "Revoked and Beyond Appeal"

In 2011, according to New Mexico Secretary of State's office, Four Way Company Incorporated's status has been listed as "revoked and beyond appeal" since 2001. [New Mexico Secretary of State Entity Detail Report, Four Way Company, accessed 5/31/11]

[Back to Search](#)

### Entity Detail

**FOUR-WAY COMPANY, INC.**

New Mexico Domestic Profit

The above Corporation is not in Good Standing

Filing Information		Address Information
<b>CorpNmprc#</b> 400671	<b>Purpose</b> PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION	<b>Mailing Address</b> PO BOX 149 FARMINGTON,NM,US,87499
<b>Corporation Status</b> RF-Revoked And Beyond Appeal	<b>Period</b>	<b>Corporation Address</b> 4000 LOMAS BOX 149 FARMINGTON,NM,US,87401
<b>Date Of Incorporation</b> 02/16/1959	<b>State Of Incorporation</b> NM	<b>OutOfState Address</b> ,,
<b>FiscalYearDate</b> 04/30/1995		<b>Foreign Address</b> ,,
Agent Information		Director(s) Information
<b>JAMES C. CASEY</b> 210 MESA DRIVE AZTEC,NM,87410		W. K NIELSON
Officer(s) Information		Cooperative License Information
Pres : CASEY, J.C. VPres : RICKEL, C.J. Secr : TIPTON, J.D. Tres : TIPTON, J.D.		Licence# : Expiration Year : Type :
Instrument Information		Supplemental Post Mark Dates
<b>InstrumentNumber</b> 400671	<b>Filing Date</b> 12/28/2000	
<b>Instrument Type</b> <b>Certificate Of Revocation</b>		
<b>Instrument Text</b> (NON FILER) CORP RETURNED MAY 14/01		
<b>InstrumentNumber</b> 90736	<b>Filing Date</b> 01/31/1977	Supplemental : Purpose Change : Agent Resigned : Name Change :
<b>Instrument Type</b> <b>Certificate Of Amendment</b>		
<b>Instrument Text</b> CNT FOUR-WAY COMPANY, INC.		
<b>InstrumentNumber</b> 400671	<b>Filing Date</b> 02/16/1959	
<b>Instrument Type</b> <b>Certificate Of Incorporation</b>		
<b>Instrument Text</b> MID-CONTINENT CONSTRUCTORS, INCORPORATED, AUTHORIZED IS 250,000/DURATION IS 100 YEARS.		

**Note: This is not official record. Please contact NMPPRC if question or conflict.**

[New Mexico Secretary of State Records, Four Way Company, accessed 5/31/11]

### 2009: Four Way Company Valued at \$500,001- \$1,000,000

In 2009, Scott Tipton's Personal Financial Disclosures showed Tipton holding assets in Four Way Company valued between \$500,001- 1,000,000.

For 2009, Tipton's total income received from Four Way Company was \$15,001-50,000. It was the same for 2008. [Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009 and 2010]

### 2010: Four Way Company Valued at \$250,001- \$500,000

In 2010, Scott Tipton's Personal Financial Disclosures show Tipton holding assets in Four Way Company valued between \$250,001-500,000.

For 2010, Tipton's total income received from Four Way Company was \$5,000-15,000. [Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009 and 2010]

### **Property Taxes Were Paid on Time**

Property taxes from 1999 through 2010?2011? were paid. [San Juan County Treasurer, Four Way Company Incorporated tax records, accessed 5/24/11]

### **Four Way Company Had a Federal Tax Lien Placed Against it in 1989**

In 1989, Four Way Company incorporated had a federal tax lien place on it for unpaid taxes totaling \$12,693.83. [Federal Tax Lien Notice, Four Way Company Incorporated, accessed 5/24/11]

*NOTE: This was 10 years before Scott Tipton had any involvement with the company*

## Tipton Properties Incorporated

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Filed a late report with the Secretary of State on three separate occasions*

**In 1989, Tipton founded Tipton Properties with his brother and mother. Tipton's personal financial disclosure shows Tipton Properties valued at \$500,001 to \$1,000,000.**

## Founder and President of Tipton Properties Incorporated

In 1989, Tipton founded and was President of Tipton Properties Inc. along with his brother Joe D. Tipton Jr. and his mother, Patricia G. Tipton. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, accessed 6/22/11; Business Wire, 1/17/02]

*NOTE: Research has been conducted on Tipton Properties, possible contracts, UCC filing and properties owned with nothing alluding to the company's services rendered or business history was found.*

## Owned Property In Cortez

In 2011, Tipton Properties Incorporated owned property at 27601 Highway 160 in Cortez. The total taxable value of the property was \$540,740. There were five buildings listed at this address: a retail store, an industrial manufacturing facility, two storage warehouses and a placeholder add-on. This address shares a similar location with Tipton Limited.

### Property Taxes Paid on Time

Property tax records from 2008 to 2011 show that Tipton Properties paid its property taxes on time. [Montezuma County Treasurer's Office, accessed 5/26/11]

## File Late Annual Reports with the Secretary of State Three Times

In 2005, 2006, and 2011, Tipton Properties failed to file annual reports with the Colorado Secretary of State on time. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Tipton Properties, accessed 6/22/11]

## Tipton Limited/ Mesa Verde Indian Trading Company and Gallery

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Company had its license suspended in 1997*
- ✓ *Tipton Limited also registered the rights to multiple trade names*
- ✓ *File a late report with the Secretary of State in 2004*

**In 1979, Tipton formed a pottery business called Mesa Verde Indian Trading Company and Gallery. That company is all under the purview of Tipton Limited. Tipton Limited has enrolled several trade names from which it does business. In 1997, Tipton Limited had its license briefly suspended with the Colorado Secretary of State's office. As the president of Tipton Limited, Tipton continues to collect a yearly salary from Tipton Limited.**

### President and Founder of Tipton Limited/Mesa Verde Indian Trading Company and Gallery

In 1997, Tipton was the owner of a pottery company called Mesa Verde Indian Trading Company & Gallery. The gallery represented about 400 native potters, including pueblo artists. Pieces in Tipton's collection were valued from \$5 to \$32,000. [Austin American-Statesman, 1/26/97]

### Tipton Limited Had License Suspended in 1997

In 1997, Tipton Limited had its license temporarily suspended and had to apply for reinstatement with the Colorado Secretary of State. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Tipton Limited, accessed 6/22/11]

<p>Please include a typed self-addressed envelope</p> <p><b>MUST BE TYPED</b></p> <p><b>MUST SUBMIT TWO COPIES</b></p>	<p>Mail to: Secretary of State Corporations Section 1560 Broadway, Suite 200 Denver, CO 80202 (303) 894-2251 Fax (303) 894-2242</p>	<p>For office use only</p> <p>19971170548 M \$ 70.00</p> <p>APPLICATION FOR REINSTATEMENT SECRETARY OF STATE 10-23-97 15:00:13</p>
<p>Pursuant to the provisions of the Colorado Business Corporation Act, the undersigned hereby executes the following:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____  FIRST: The name of the corporation at the time of dissolution <u>Tipton, LTD.</u>  _____  SECOND: New name under which the corporation is to be reinstated (applicable only if corporate name at time of dissolution is no longer available)  _____</p> <p>THIRD: The street address of its registered office and the name of its registered agent at such address is <u>Scott R Tipton</u> <u>27601 Hwy 160, Cortez, Co. 81321</u> Signature of registered agent <u>Scott R Tipton</u></p> <p>FOURTH: The corporation was administratively dissolved on <u>10/1/97</u></p> <p>FIFTH: The grounds for dissolution either did not exist or have been eliminated.</p> <p>SIXTH: All taxes, fees, or penalties imposed by the Colorado Business Corporation Act have been paid. By <u>Scott R Tipton</u> Its _____</p>		

[Colorado Secretary of State Records, Tipton Limited, accessed 6/22/11]

### Tipton Limited has Eight Registered Trade Names

As of June 2011, the Colorado Secretary of State's office showed that Scott Tipton was the founder and registered agent of Tipton Limited, which registered the following the trade names listed below. [Colorado Secretary of State, Tipton Ltd. Trade names, accessed 6/22/11]

## Search Results

Found 8 matching record(s). Viewing page 1 of 1.

#	ID Number	Document Number	Name	Status	Form	Effective Date	Comment
1	<a href="#">19991219595</a>	19991219595	INDIAN TERRITORY TRADING COMPANY AND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
2	<a href="#">19991219596</a>	19991219596	INDIAN TERRITORY TRADING POSTAND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
3	<a href="#">19991219597</a>	19991219597	INDIAN MESA TRADING POST AND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
4	<a href="#">19991219598</a>	19991219598	INDIAN MESA TRADING COMPANY AND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
5	<a href="#">19991219599</a>	19991219599	INDIAN LANDS TRADING POST ANDGALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
6	<a href="#">19991219600</a>	19991219600	INDIAN LANDS TRADING COMPANY AND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
7	<a href="#">19991219601</a>	19991219601	MESA INDIAN TRADING POST AND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	
8	<a href="#">19991219602</a>	19991219602	MESA INDIAN TRADING COMPANY AND GALLERY	Effective	DPC	11/23/1999 12:00 AM	

[Colorado Secretary of State Records, Tipton Limited Trade Names, accessed 6/22/11]

### Shared a Similar Address with Tipton Properties Incorporated

Properties records taken from the Montezuma County Assessor's office in 2011 show Tipton Limited sharing a similar address with Tipton Properties Incorporated. Additionally, the total taxable value for both Tipton Properties and Tipton Limited were the same at \$540,740. However, Tipton Properties assessment is based only on the operating equipment for Tipton Limited, not the actual buildings or land. [Montezuma County Assessor's Office, accessed 5/26/11]

*NOTE: See the Tipton Properties section for information about the value of the land and buildings for 27601 Highway 160 in Cortez.*

### Property Taxes Paid on Time

Property tax records from 2008 to 2011 show that Tipton Limited paid its property taxes on time. [Montezuma County Treasurer's Office, accessed 5/26/11]

### Failed to File Annual Report in 2004

In 2004, Tipton Limited failed to file its annual report with the Colorado Secretary of State's office. [Colorado Secretary of State 2004 records, Tipton Ltd., accessed 6/22/11]

### Sued Mariel Yerkey for Writing a Bad Check

In 1995, Tipton Limited Sued Mariel Yerkey for writing a bad check to pay for rugs valued at \$950.69. Tipton Limited sued Yerkey for \$3,675.07. Tipton Limited won the case in Montezuma County District Court. [Montezuma District Court, Tipton LTD vs. Mariel Yerkey, Case number 1995 CV000142, accessed 5/27/11]

## **Asked Medicine Man to Bless His Store**

In 1997, it was reported that Tipton, a self described Episcopalian Anglo, had followed an artist's advice and asked a tribal medicine man to conduct blessing ceremonies in the workplace every spring and fall. [Austin American-Statesman, 1/26/97]

## **Pottery Business Was Robbed**

In 2005, Mesa Verde Trading Co. & Gallery was robbed and nearly \$120,000 was stolen from the company.

Tipton said the 14 stolen pieces were of the size and quality "that makes them extremely valuable and hard to buy." [Rocky Mountain News, 4/21/05]

## **Tipton: "Mesa Verde Pottery... the Story of a Small-Businessman"**

In 2010, Tipton, in an interview with The Durango Herald, said that his business, Mesa Verde Pottery, was "the story of a small-businessman."

"A friend of mine had worked with Grand Canyon (National Park), and they weren't being supplied with product, so he wanted to know if I was interested in starting a business. We started it, he died that same year, and I brought my brother in as a partner. That was 1979. We just grew it from the ground up. I've done that for the past 31 years now, and been very hands-on. Outside of artwork – because what we sell is done by Native Americans – I've done everything down there. It's the story of a small-businessman."  
[Durango Herald, 7/12/10]

## **Pottery Company's "Tough Choices" Needed in Congress**

In November 2010, Tipton said that the tough choices that he had to make in balancing his pottery companies budget were the same tough choices that were need in Washington.

"We've been able to balance the budget. That required making tough choices [...] that mentality is in dire need in Washington right now," said Tipton. [Politico, 11/2/10]

## **Complained About Having to Fill Out Forms Detailing How Much Pottery He Owned**

In 2010, Tipton reportedly spent hours filling out government forms saying how many thousands of pounds of clay the company used. After that, Tipton became a vocal critic of government intrusion and decided to run for Congress. [Washington Post, 11/04/10]

## **Worried About His Jewelry Business during Impending Government Shutdown**

In 2011, Tipton worried at a government shutdown would slow business at the jewelry business he owned near Mesa Verde National Park. [Denver Post, 4/9/11]

## Triad Waste Management Corporation

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *No evidence of property tax records*
- ✓ *No evidence of business contracts within Colorado*
- ✓ *Tipton's uncle was the President of the company*
- ✓ *Company has the same physical address as Triad Western Constructors and Alta Vista Land Company*

**From 1993 to 1999, Scott Tipton was the vice president of Triad Waste Management Corporation. Triad Waste Management's president at the time Tipton was Vice President was Terry Gorsuch, Scott Tipton's uncle. Triad Waste Management shares a physical address with Triad Western Constructors and Alta Vista Land Company, both companies for which Tipton served on the board of directors.**

### **Founder and Vice President of Triad Waste Management Corporation**

In 1993, Scott Tipton was listed as the vice president of Triad Waste Management Corporation in public records with the Colorado Secretary of State. The company shares a physical address with Triad Western Constructors and Alta Vista Land Company.

Tipton was last listed as vice president of Triad Waste Management in 1999. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

*NOTE: Research has been conducted on Triad Waste Management's tax records, possible contracts, UCC filings, and nothing alluding to the company's services rendered or business history was found.*

### **... Shared Same Address with Triad Western and Alta Vista Land Company**

In 1998, Alta Vista was located at 512 N. Broadway Cortez, CO. This is the same address as Triad Western and Alta Vista Land Company. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

### **...and Same Business Partners as Triad Western and Alta Vista Land Company**

Terry R. Gorsuch, Tipton's uncle, and Aryol Brumley were both listed as company officers for Triad Waste, Triad Western, and Alta Vista Land Company. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

### **Tipton's Uncle was President of Triad Waste Management**

Terry R. Gorsuch, Scott Tipton's uncle, and Aryol W. Brumley were listed as co-founders of Triad Waste Management. Terry R. Gorsuch was listed as the president of the corporation. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Triad Waste Management, accessed 6/22/11]

### **Uncle Donated to State Representative Campaign**

In 2008, Terry Gorsuch donated a total of \$600 to Tipton's campaign for Colorado State Representative. Gorsuch is Scott Tipton's uncle. [Colorado Secretary of State Election Division, accessed 5/06/11]

### **No Evidence of Property Taxes for Triad Waste Management**

In 2011, there was no evidence of Triad Waste Management having ever paid property taxes. [Montezuma County Treasurer's office, accessed 5/27/11]

## Triad Western Constructors

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Company received \$12 million in stimulus money*
- ✓ *Members of the board of directors donated thousands to Tipton's Congressional campaign*
- ✓ *Company has the same physical address as Triad Waste Management and Alta Vista Land Company*

In 1997, Scott Tipton was reported to be a member of the board for Triad Western Constructors. The company does work with oil and gas drilling, heavy construction, and waste and water treatment. Terry Gorsuch, Scott Tipton's uncle, was the president of Triad Western Constructors at the time Tipton served on its board. Triad Western Constructors shares a physical address with Triad Waste Management and Alta Vista Land Company, both companies for which Tipton served on the board of directors. In 2010, members of Triad Western's board of directors donated thousands to Tipton's congressional race. Add in part about receiving stimulus money

### Member of the Board of Directors for Triad Western Constructors

In 1997 Scott Tipton was a member of the board of directors for Triad Western Constructors, a construction company formed by Tipton's uncle and father. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/28/97]

*Note: There is no evidence with the Colorado Secretary of State's office that Tipton ever served on Triad Western Constructors board*

### **... Shared Same Address with Triad Waste and Alta Vista Land Company**

In 1998, Alta Vista was located at 512 N. Broadway Cortez, CO. This is the same address as Triad Waste Management and Alta Vista Land Company. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

### **...and Same Business Partners as Triad Waste and Alta Vista Land Company**

Terry R. Gorsuch, Tipton's uncle, and Aryol Brumley were both listed as company officers for Triad Waste, Triad Western, and Alta Vista Land Company. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

### Triad Western Constructors Board Members Donated to Tipton's Congressional Race

In 2010, members of Triad Western Constructor's board of directors contributed \$3,700 to Tipton's race for Congress. Since 2006, when Tipton first ran for congress, Triad Western Contractors board members have contributed more than \$13,000 to Tipton. [Coloradolpolis.com, 10/25/10]

### **Triad Western Constructors Received \$12 Million in Stimulus Funds**

In October 2010, [The Denver Post](#) reported that Triad Western Constructors received \$12 million in stimulus package funds. This was in light of Tipton criticizing the stimulus package saying it "has not created jobs." [[Denver Post](#), 10/23/10]

#### **\$7 Million to Build Sewer Lines in Cortez**

In 2010, Triad Western Constructors received over \$7 million to build water and sewer lines in Cortez. It was estimated that the project created 7 jobs. [recovery.gov, [accessed 8/08/11](#)]

#### **Over \$5.5 Million to Build Water and Sewer Lines at Mesa Verde National Park**

In 2010, Triad Western Constructors received over \$5.5 million to build water and sewer lines at Mesa Verde National Park. [recovery.gov, [accessed 8/08/11](#)]

### **Tipton Family Member and Owner of Triad Western Denied Tipton's Involvement With Triad Western**

In 2011, Terry Gorsuch, son of Triad Western's founder Terry R. Gorsuch, and Carla Hoehn, registered agent and board member of Triad Western Constructors, said Scott Tipton had no vested interest in Triad Western and that Tipton was never on Triad Western's payroll. [facebook.com posting, 10/31/10, cited from [The Cortez Journal](#)]

#### **Carla Hoehn Donated \$2,000 to Scott Tipton's Campaign**

From 2006 to November 2010, Carla Hoehn donated \$2,000 to Scott Tipton's congressional races. [fec.gov, accessed 7/05/11]

#### **Terry Gorsuch Donated a total of \$2,800 to Scott Tipton's Campaign**

From 2006 to November 2010, Terry Gorsuch donated \$2,000 to Scott Tipton's congressional races. [fec.gov, accessed 7/5/11]

#### **Uncle Donated to State Representative Campaign**

In 2008, Terry Gorsuch donated a total of \$600 to Tipton's campaign for Colorado State Representative. Gorsuch is Scott Tipton's uncle. [Colorado Secretary of State Election Division, accessed 5/06/11]

#### **Rita Gorsuch Donated \$7,600 to Scott Tipton's Campaign**

From 2006 to November 2010, Rita Gorsuch donated \$2,000 to Scott Tipton's congressional races. [fec.gov, accessed 7/5/11]



**Family, but not family business** + Write a Note

by [Scott R. Tipton](#) on Sunday, October 31, 2010 at 7:08pm

I really appreciate these two letters in the Cortez Journal. Thanks for the clarification!

**Family but not family business**

**Dear Editor:**

Chuck McAfee posted a letter to the editor on October 26 claiming stimulus dollars are flowing to Scott Tipton's "big family construction firm." Yes, Scott has a family member that makes a living as a local contractor and yes, that local business has benefitted from stimulus related projects, but Scott Tipton has no vested interest in Triad nor has he ever been on the payroll. Scott's father was one of the original founders of the company, but Triad stock has not been owned by a Tipton for nearly 15 years, long before anyone knew what stimulus dollars were. There is just enough innuendo in Mr. McAfee's letter to try and make a connection where none exists. Perhaps this type of deceitful behavior is one of the reasons why Mr. McAfee was not successful in his bid for public office.

**Terry Gorsuch and Carla Hoehn Co-owners Triad Western Constructors, Inc. Cortez**

**A new low near to election eve**

**Dear Editor and Mr. McAfee:**

My late husband, Terry R. Gorsuch, began Triad Western Constructors in 1979 and worked extremely hard along with his partner Aryol Brumley to make the company a success. These two honest men and their many loyal employees struggled through great hardships to keep their young company afloat and viable. For you to imply that the company belongs to the Tipton family in order to discredit Scott Tipton as he makes his run for Congress is a dishonest slant as we draw near to election eve. I am surprised and disappointed at the new low you have taken this congressional race.

**Rita Gorsuch Dolores**

[facebook.com, accessed 7/5/11]

## Alta Vista Land Company

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Company has the same physical address as Triad Waste Management and Triad Western Constructors*
- ✓ *Tipton's uncle was the president of Alta Vista Land Company at the time Tipton served on its board of directors*

**In 1998, Scott Tipton joined the board of directors for Alta Vista Land Company. Terry Gorsuch, Scott Tipton's uncle, was the president of Alta Vista Land Company at the time Tipton served on its board. It is unclear what the company does or who it has contracted with in the past. Alta Vista Land Company shares a physical address with Triad Waste Management and Triad Western Constructors, both companies for which Tipton served on the board of directors.**

### **Served on the Board of Directors for Alta Vista Land Company Incorporated**

In 1998, Colorado Secretary of State records show that Scott Tipton was a member of the board of directors for Alta Vista Land Company, Inc. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

#### **... Shared Same Address with Triad Waste and Triad Western**

In 1998, Alta Vista was located at 512 N. Broadway Cortez, CO. This is the same address as Triad Waste Management and Triad Western Constructors. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

#### **...and Same Business Partners as Triad Waste and Triad Western**

Terry R. Gorsuch, Tipton's uncle, and Aryol Brumley were both listed as company officers for Triad Waste, Triad Western, and Alta Vista Land Company. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, Alta Vista Land Company; accessed 6/17/11]

## West Slope Investments LLC

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Scott Tipton's father and business partner tried to incorporate West Slope Investments four times, each time they were unsuccessful*
- ✓ *Owned Arby's in Montrose*

**In 1996, Scott Tipton served on the board of directors for West Slope Investments LLC.** Evidence from UCC filings show that the company built an Arby's in Montrose, CO. Scott Tipton's father and business partner originally tried to incorporate West Slope Investments LLC in 1994 but were rejected four times by the Colorado Secretary of State. After those four rejections, the company was incorporated in October of 1994. By 1996, Scott Tipton was listed as the registered agent for the company. West Slope Investments was voluntarily dissolved as a company in 2001.

### **Member of the Board of Directors for West Slope Investments LLC**

In 1996, Scott Tipton was on the board of directors for West Slope Investments LLC. [Colorado Secretary of State, West Slope Investments, accessed 6/22/11]

### **Tipton's Father and Brother also were on West Slope Investment's Board**

In 1996, members of the board for West Slope Investments included Cal Rickel, Joe D. Tipton Sr., and Joe D. Tipton Jr. [Colorado Secretary of State Records, West Slope Investments, accessed 6/22/11]

### **UCC Filing for Arby's in Montrose, CO**

In 1994, UCC filing records from the Colorado Secretary of State show that Cal Rickel, Joe D. Tipton Sr., and West Slope Investments LLC opened an Arby's at 1680 E. Main St. Montrose, CO. [Colorado Secretary of State, UCC filings, West Slope Investments, 1994]

### **Secretary of State Records Show Multiple Rejected Attempts to Incorporate**

In 1994, Colorado Secretary of State Records show four rejected attempts by Joe D. Tipton and Cal Rickel to incorporate West Slope Investments LLC. The company was eventually incorporated on October 31, 1994. [Colorado Secretary of State, Articles of Organization, accessed 6/26/11]

*NOTE: No reasons were given for why the company was rejected four times to incorporate.*

### **Tipton was Listed as Registered Agent After Earlier Rejections**

In 1996, a change of registered agent form was filed with the Colorado Secretary of State for West Slope Investments LLC. Scott Tipton was subsequently listed as the registered agent for West Slope Investments LLC.

This change of registered agent was after multiple failed attempts to incorporate West Slope Investments in 1994 by Scott Tipton's Father and Cal Rickel. There were no documents filed for West Slope Investments LLC in 1995. [Colorado Secretary of State, 1996 Change of RORA form, accessed 6/26/11]

### **Company Was Voluntarily Dissolved After Five Years**

In January 2001, an “intent to dissolve” form was filed with the Colorado Secretary of State’s office for West Slope Investments LLC. West Slope Investments LLC was dissolved on January 26, 2001. [Colorado Secretary of State, Intent to Dissolve Form, accessed 6/26/11]

## Vectra Bank of Colorado

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Served on Vectra bank board for seven years... and then denied it*
- ✓ *Vectra had policies that were hostile to rural Colorado and farmers*
- ✓ *Colorado Agriculture Commissioner equated Vectra Bank loan to mafia deals*
- ✓ *Falsely claimed to not profit from bank bailout of Zions Bancorporation*

Scott Tipton served on the board of directors for Vectra Bank Colorado from 1998 to 2005. During Tipton's tenure as a bank board member for Vectra Bank, there were reported incidences of Vectra Bank charging exorbitant interest rates to rural Colorado farmers. Additionally, Vectra Bank made the decision in early 2003 to close several rural banks in rural Colorado. In 2010, when Tipton's participation with Vectra Bank was questioned by the Salazar campaign, Tipton denied his involvement as a bank board member for Vectra Bank.

### Tipton Served on the Board of Vectra Bank from 1998 to 2005

Scott Tipton served on the board of Vectra Bank Colorado from 1998 to 2005. [[Denver Post](#), 11/09/98; [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/2/10]

### **Vectra Bank Colorado was Acquired by Zions Bancorporation in 1998**

In 1998, Vectra Bank of Colorado was acquired by Zions Bancorporation. [vectrabank.com, accessed 6/17/11]

### **... However, Claimed to Have Never Served on a Bank Board**

In 2010, during an interview on Fox news, Tipton claimed to have never served on a bank board.

“You know, I served on Vectra Bank Colorado, and it was four years ago. I was not serving on a bank board and Vectra never received direct stimulus money. That was through the parent corporation, Zion (Zions Bancorporation). But I certainly didn’t profit.” [Fox News Channel “Happening Now” Interview, 10/14/10]

### **Tipton Had Thousands Invested in Zions Bancorporation in 2009**

According to Tipton’s 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Zions Bancorporation valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **...Also Invested in Zions Bancorporation Jointly with His Wife**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held joint assets with his wife in Zions Bancorporation valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **November 2008: Zions Bancorporation Received \$1.4 Billion in Bailout Money**

On November 17, 2008, Zions Bancorporation received \$1.4 billion in bailout money from the U.S Treasury. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

### **... Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **2010: Salazar Ad Claimed that Tipton Served on Bank Board That Was Bailed Out**

In 2010, the Salazar campaign claimed that Tipton was serving on the board of Vectra when it was bailed out with TARP funds. The more accurate account of Tipton's service was that while Tipton did serve on the board of the Vectra Bank, it was before TARP funds were dispersed to any bank. Additionally, Vectra Bank was not directly a recipient of TARP funds, but Zions Bancorporation, a bank Tipton had thousands invested in, was. Tipton did benefit from the bailout of Zions Bancorporation, but not on account of his service on the bank board but because he had invested money in the Zions Bancorporation. [Grand Junction Sentinel, 9/28/10]

### **Vectra Bank Foreclosed on Farmers, Charging “Exorbitant Fees”**

In 2000, The Denver Post reported on Everett and Belinda Kissler and their ranch foreclosure by Vectra Bank Colorado. The Kisslers claimed that they were charged high interest rates and subsequently forced from their farm because of Vectra's policies. [Denver Post, 3/12/00]

### **Vectra Bank Charged 800 Percent Interest on Farm Loans**

In 2000, Vectra Bank foreclosed on Everett Kissler's farm and made all of the loans due and payable, charging the Kisslers \$1,000 a day on each loan for the property owned.

A financial statement given to Vectra Bank valued Kissler's property and equipment at \$1.6 million.

With six loans, Kissler was charged \$6,000 per day, which amounted to 800 percent interest, for a total of \$341,000. [Denver Post, 3/12/00]

### **... Forced Farmer into Bankruptcy**

In 2000, because of Vectra Banks excessive interest rates, Everett Kissler was forced to file Chapter 12 bankruptcy. [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **...Lawyer Called Vectra Bank Fees Unprecedented**

In 2000, Ken Copple, an attorney who specialized in agricultural bankruptcy cases and represented the Kissler family, said the penalty was unprecedented in his 15 years of experience.

Copple said he was unaware of a legal right the bank had to impose “an excessive, exorbitant penalty.” [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **Vectra Bank Denied Charging Such Rates**

Michael Meganck, regional president for Vectra Bank in northern Colorado, contested Kissler’s claims.

“It’s my understanding it is \$1,000 per day on all six loans which are in default, and not \$1,000 on each loan,” Meganck said. “There is a state statute that allows banks to charge a rent on equipment that is in repossession as long as a loan is in default.”

According to Meganck, the charge was comparable to the rental cost of the equipment. [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **Vectra’s Intent Questioned**

Norm Dalsted, an agriculture and resource economist at Colorado State University, said Vectra’s actions could be an attempt to divest itself of agriculture loans.

Kissler claimed to have been with Vectra for 15 years without incident “until Vectra bought the former Independent Banks about two years ago,” according to [The Denver Post](#).

Copple suggested the acquisition could be to blame for the high interest loans.

“All these banks used to be independent country banks that understand the ups and downs of agriculture,” Copple said. “These big banking corporations don’t have that same kind of understanding.” [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture: “You Could Get a Better Deal from the Mafia”**

Don Ament, Colorado commissioner of agriculture, said his department was monitoring the situation with the aim of alleviating foreclosures in the farm community.

“I don’t understand what Vectra is trying to do here,” Ament said. “You could get a better deal from the Mafia.” [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **Vectra Bank of Colorado Closed Rural Banks in Colorado**

In July 2003, Vectra Bank decided to close 10 of its rural branches in Colorado. David Manley, regional president of Vectra Bank, attributed the bank closings to “the lack of employee agricultural lending expertise.” [Northern Colorado Business Report, 8/08/03]

## Non-Profit Involvement

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Founder of Mesa Verde Foundation*
- ✓ *Wanted to build a \$50 million dollar museum near Mesa Verde National Park*
- ✓ *Founding board member of 100 Club of Montezuma County*

**Scott Tipton's non-profit work includes helping found the Mesa Verde Foundation and the 100 Club of Montezuma County. While on the board for the Mesa Verde Foundation Tipton wanted to build a museum at the entrance of Mesa Verde National Park. The incorporating articles for 100 Club of Montezuma County says the organization seeks to help injured fire and police personnel as well as establish scholarship programs for youth. However, no evidence was found proving that during Tipton's time with the 100 Club of Montezuma County that any charitable work was actually accomplished.**

### **Founder and Director of the Mesa Verde Foundation**

In 1997, Tipton, along with John Low and Richard Conn, established the Mesa Verde Foundation. [[Rocky Mountain News, 8/28/06](#); [Cortez Journal, 10/18/08](#)]

### **Wanted To Build a Museum Near the Entrance to Mesa Verde National Park**

In 2001, one of the stated goals of the Mesa Verde Foundation was to build a museum near the entrance of Mesa Verde National Park on Highway 160. The estimated cost of the museum was around \$50 million dollars. [[The Durango Herald, 10/02/01](#)]

*Note: For more information on Mesa Verde Foundation, the website is mesaverdefoundation.org*

### **Founding Board Member for the 100 Club of Montezuma County**

In 1998, Scott Tipton, along with Todd M. Starr, was a founding board member of the 100 Club of Montezuma County. [Colorado Secretary of State Records for 100 Club of Montezuma County, accessed 5/31/11]

### **Created to Aid Law Enforcement, Fire and Rescue Personnel**

Under the "purpose" section of the articles of incorporation for 100 Club of Montezuma County, it cites that it "may provide assistance to families of area law enforcement, fire or emergency rescue personnel, in times of need or distress; may offer education scholarships to area law enforcement,

fire or emergency rescue personnel or their family members.” [Colorado Secretary of State Records for 100 Club of Montezuma County, accessed 5/31/11]

Montezuma County's 100 Club was “an organization dedicated to providing for the families of our first responders who are injured or killed in the line of duty.” [[The Denver Post](#), 10/29/06]

### **100 Club of Montezuma County was Listed as a 50 (c)(3)**

In 1998, records from the Colorado Secretary of State’s office listed the 100 Club of Montezuma County as non-profit 501(c)(3) .” [Colorado Secretary of State Records for 100 Club of Montezuma County, accessed 5/31/11]

## iConstituent and Broadnet Teleservices LLC Ethics Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Elizabeth Tipton used father's name to solicit business for Broadnet Teleservices*
- ✓ *Broadnet Teleservices is owned by Scott Tipton's nephew*
- ✓ *Wife of Broadnet CEO donated maximum amount to Tipton campaign*
- ✓ *Sponsored legislation that would directly benefit nephew's company*
- ✓ *Cosponsored bill to make telecommunications machinery and tools tax exempt*
- ✓ *Tipton used iConstituent LLC as a means of conducting tele-townhalls*
- ✓ *Broadnet LLC used iConstituent LLC as a vendor for some of its services*
- ✓ *Tipton's use of iConstituent LLC called into question whether Tipton was helping Broadnet Teleservices profit using taxpayer dollars*

In 2011, it was discovered that Scott Tipton's daughter, Elizabeth, was referencing her father as a Congressman when soliciting other Congressional offices to buy Broadnet Teleservices' products. After this was discovered, Tipton came forward, calling his daughter's actions "improper," informing the House Ethics Committee of what happened. Broadnet Teleservices is owned by Scott Tipton's nephew, Stephen Patterson. Tipton's connection with Broadnet Teleservices dates back to at least 2006, when Scott Tipton used Broadnet on his 2006 congressional campaign. Tipton's daughter has worked for Broadnet since 2008. In 2010, Tipton cosponsored a bill in the Colorado State Legislature that would have made teleservices equipment tax-exempt. This legislation would have directly benefitted Broadnet Teleservices, his daughter's employer and nephew's company. In 2011, Tipton was reported to have spent \$7,000 in employing one of Broadnet's vendors for telecommunications services in his congressional office. Tipton's use of iConstituent was called into question when it was discovered that Broadnet Teleservices, a company owned by Tipton's nephew and at which his daughter worked, was a vendor for iConstituent LLC. An ethics investigation ensued, questioning whether Tipton's use of iConstituent was a violation of House ethics.

### 2004: Tipton's Nephew Started as CEO of Broadnet Teleservices, LLC

In 2004, Scott Tipton's nephew started Broadnet Teleservices, LLC that deals in telecommunications services.

According to the [Cortez Journal](#), Broadnet has a “product that allows people to participate in live, town hall types of telephone conversations - conducted by everyone from political figures to sports organizations.” [Colorado Secretary of State Records, accessed 6/21/11; [Cortez Journal, 9/07/10](#)]

## **2006: Tipton used Broadnet Teleservices LLC during 2006 Congressional Campaign**

In 2006, Scott Tipton used Broadnet services in his campaign for Congress. Tipton’s campaign paid \$1,541 in April of 2006 for administrative phone services. [CQ Money Line, accessed 6/29/11]

## **2008: Tipton’s Daughter Interned at Broadnet Teleservices, LLC**

In 2008, Scott Tipton’s daughter, Elizabeth Tipton, took an internship with Broadnet Teleservices LLC. [[Denver Post, 5/27/11](#)]

## **2008: Broadnet CEO Donated to State Representative Campaign**

In 2008, Steven Patterson donated a total of \$800 to Tipton’s campaign for Colorado State Representative. Patterson is Scott Tipton’s nephew and CEO of Broadnet Telecommunications. [Colorado Secretary of State Election Division, accessed 5/06/11; Colorado Secretary of State, Broadnet Telecommunications LLC, accessed 7/13/11]

### **Wife of Broadnet CEO Donated to State Representative Campaign**

In 2008, Angie Patterson donated a total of \$800 to Tipton’s campaign for Colorado State Representative. Patterson is the wife of Broadnet CEO James Patterson. [Colorado Secretary of State Election Division, accessed 5/06/11]

## **2008-2010: Tipton’s Daughter Was a Part-time Employee for Broadnet Teleservices, LLC**

From the end of Elizabeth Tipton’s internships in 2008 until starting full-time employment with Broadnet in 2011, Elizabeth Tipton worked as a part-time employ with Broadnet Teleservices, LLC. [[Denver Post, 5/27/11](#)]

## **2010: Cosponsored Bill to Make Telecommunications Machinery and Tools Tax Exempt**

In 2010, Tipton was one of 13 cosponsors to a bill that would establish sales and use tax exemptions for machinery and machine tools used in providing telecommunications services.

According to the bills summary, “The bill creates a phased-in exemption from the sales and use tax for purchases in excess of \$500 of machinery and machine tools to be used in the state directly and predominantly for providing telecommunications service for sale or profit.”

The legislation sent to the House Finance committee and voted out of committee on a vote of 6-5. The legislation was then sent to the House Appropriations committee and on a vote of 8-5 was postponed indefinitely. [Colorado House of Representatives Committee Votes; [accessed 6/21/11](#)]

The legislation was never brought to a vote on the Colorado House of Representative's house floor. [Colorado House Bill 10-1289, introduced [2/5/10](#)]

## **2010: Wife of Broadnet CEO Donated Maximum Amount to Tipton Campaign**

In September 2010, Angela Patterson, wife of Broadnet CEO Stephen Patterson, donated \$2,400 dollars to Scott Tipton's campaign for Congress. [FEC Donation Records for Angela Patterson, accessed 6/21/11; [Politico, 5/27/11](#)]

## **2011: Elizabeth Tipton Started Full-Time Employment for Broadnet Teleservices, LLC**

In January 2011, Elizabeth Tipton went to work as a government relations specialist at Broadnet telecommunications LLC. [[Politico, 5/27/11](#)]

## **2011: Elizabeth Tipton Used Father's Name to Solicit Business for Broadnet Teleservices**

In 2011, it was reported that Elizabeth Tipton wrote emails to congressional staffers introducing herself as the daughter of "Congressman Tipton."

"I am Congressman Tipton's daughter," one of the emails began. "I am currently working with Broadnet, and we do telephone town hall meetings. I left a packet and flash drive at the office that demonstrate our product. We have several vendors on the hill ... so I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and help you determine which vendor would fit your office and budget best." [[Politico, 5/27/11](#)]

### **Scott Tipton: Daughters Emails Were "Improper"**

On May 26, 2011, Tipton sent a letter to the House ethics committee apologizing for "improper" e-mails his daughter sent using his name to solicit business for the tele-town hall services company where she is employed. [[Politico, 5/27/11](#); [Denver Post, 5/27/11](#)]

### **House Ethics Committee: Decision on Rule Violation Pending**

In May 2011, Tipton apologized for his daughter's "improper" emails to congressional offices trying to solicit business for Broadnet Teleservices. Tipton's office awaited a response from the House Ethics Committee. [[Associated Press, 5/27/11](#)]

### **Colorado Ethics Watch Investigated Tipton's Earliest Knowledge of E-mail Solicitations**

In May 2011, Tipton was questioned by Colorado Ethics Watch for potential ethics violations involving his daughter's work on Capitol Hill.

"While it is not clear whether Representative Tipton violated any specific ethics rules, these actions put into question whether Representative Tipton or his family are using his elected office

for personal gain rather than to serve the interests of his constituency... Ethics Watch will be taking a close look at this situation, focusing specifically on when Representative Tipton was first aware that this was happening," Director Luis Toro. [[Colorado Independent, 5/31/11](#)]

### **Called “Clintonian” in Answering Broadnet Accusations**

In May 2011, Tipton was criticized for evading questions about his previous knowledge as it relates to his daughter’s questionable soliciting of Broadnet services on Capitol Hill.

“I find his answers even more Clintonian now than in April,” said Rob Douglas, co-host of “The Cari and Rob Show”. Cari Hermacinski said that Tipton’s unsatisfying responses underlined the disconnect between politicians in Washington. [[Colorado Independent, 5/31/11](#)]

### **Headline: Radio hosts call Tipton answers to Broadnet ethics questions “Clintonian”**

In 2011, Tipton was criticized by talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas for dodging their questions on a potential ethics violation associated with his daughter soliciting business on the hill. The Colorado Independent reported “Steamboat Springs talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas were clearly unsatisfied with answers Colorado Congressman Scott Tipton provided on their show this morning in response to questions about potential ethics violations committed when Tipton’s daughter used his name to solicit business on Capitol Hill as part of her ‘government relations’ job with tele-townhall firm Broadnet. The hosts probed and Tipton parried. Afterward, Hermacinski and Douglas lamented that the congressman seemed intent to fudge on the issue. They said his reaction to the story was evasive, that he gave the kind of parsing non-answers Americans have grown accustomed to hearing from politicians in trouble. ‘I find his answers even more Clintonian now than in April,’ said Douglas, referring to President Bill Clinton who famously dodged questions about his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky with lawyerly half-answers.” [[Colorado Independent, 5/31/11](#)]

### **Broadnet and iConstituent’s Relationship**

Broadnet teleservices was formed in 2004 by Stephen Patterson in Colorado. iConstituent was formed in 2002 by Zain Khan in California.

iConstituent uses Broadnet’s teleservices, namely its “Boomerang” interface capabilities, to run its own telephone Town Hall services, contracting with Broadnet Teleservices LLC. [Taken from iConstituent website, [6/28/11](#)]

### **Tipton Bought Telecommunication Services from iConstituent LLC**

In 2011, Tipton’s congressional office used a telecommunications company called iConstituent in conducting a tele-town hall in the first quarter of 2011. The same vendor also services his newsletter and communications database.

### **Broadnet Used iConstituent LLC as a Vendor for Some of Its Products**

In 2011, iConstituent used Broadnet’s teleservices, namely its “Boomerang” interface capabilities, to run its own telephone Town Hall services, contracting with Broadnet Teleservices LLC. [iConstituent website, [6/28/11](#)]

## **Tipton Spent Over \$2,500 on iConstituent**

In February 2011, Tipton's congressional disbursement report showed that his office spent \$1,750 on IConstituent LLC for web and email services. On March 17, 2011, Tipton reported that he spent another \$750 on IConstituent LLC for web and email services. On February 14, 2011, Tipton reported that he spent \$178 on IConstituent LLC for maintenance/repairs.

Tipton spent a total of \$2,678 on IConstituent in the first session of the 112<sup>th</sup> session of Congress. [112<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session, Statement of Disbursements, [January 1, 2011 to March 31, 2011](#), [Denver Post, 5/27/11](#)]

## **Tipton Spent \$7,771 on iConstituent**

In April 2011, invoices from Tipton's Cortez office showed he paid \$7,771 to iConstituent and Constituent Services Inc. for newsletters and an April tele-town hall. [[Denver Post, 6/9/11](#)]

## **Tipton's Use of iConstituent LLC Questioned Because of Broadnet Connection**

In 2011, Tipton's use of iConstituent in his office was called into question sparking ethics questions about Tipton buying services to benefit his family.

According to House rules, no member of Congress can receive any financial benefits because of their elected position. The gift rule states that relatives of members of Congress, for the purpose of enforcement, should be treated as members. In his letter to the Ethics Committee, Tipton said he had ‘consulted my staff and the House Ethics Rules and I do not believe this to be a violation of any ethics rule.’”

Colorado Ethics Watch Director Luis Toro issued a statement saying Tipton's actions, “put into question whether Representative Tipton or his family are using his elected office for personal gain, rather than to serve the interests of his constituency.” [[Denver Post, 5/27/11](#)]

## **CREW: Tipton's use of iConstituent “Probably Not the Smartest Thing”**

In 2011, the rationale behind Tipton's decision use iConstituent was called into question by Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington.

“Anti-nepotism rules exist and were clearly intended that you do not use official taxpayer money to hire relatives at all,” said Melanie Sloan, executive director for Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington. “Whether it's a technical violation or not...it's probably not the smartest thing.” [[Denver Post, 6/9/11](#)]

## **Former FEC Commissioner: Tipton's Use of iConstituent an “Ethical Gray Area”**

In 2011, former FEC commissioner Karl Sandstrom called into question Tipton's use of iConstituent LLC, suggesting that using iConstituent's services was an "ethical gray area."

"Steering contracts and subcontracts to family members is an ethical gray area, but if the sum of money is big enough, it can spark an investigation," said Sandstrom. "He could have picked another company. You're supposed to avoid even the appearance of your office being used for private personal gain." [[Denver Post, 6/9/11](#)]

### **Tipton: "I wasn't aware that I should have to point out every family relationship,"**

In May 2011, Tipton was criticized for avoiding potential ethics questions surrounding his daughter's use of his name to solicit business on Capitol Hill.

Appearing on the "Cari and Rob Show," the hosts were unsatisfied with answers Tipton provided in response to questions about potential ethics violations committed when Tipton's daughter used his name to solicit business on behalf of Broadnet Teleservices.

Asked whether he had been forthright in April, when his knowledge of his daughter's actions were first discovered, Tipton said he was "broadsided" at that time.

"There's no there in this story...I wasn't aware that I should have to point out every family relationship," Tipton said. "I have another nephew starting a landscaping business. Should I mention that?"

One of the radio show hosts pointed out that Broadnet was being paid with taxpayer money. [[Colorado Independent, 5/31/11](#)]

## **Tipton Continued to Spend on iConstituent Despite Clear Conflict of Interest**

### **Elizabeth Tipton Used Father's Name to Solicit Business for Broadnet Teleservices**

In 2011, it was reported that Elizabeth Tipton wrote emails to congressional staffers introducing herself as the daughter of "Congressman Tipton."

"I am Congressman Tipton's daughter," one of the emails began. "I am currently working with Broadnet, and we do telephone town hall meetings. I left a packet and flash drive at the office that demonstrate our product. We have several vendors on the hill ... so I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and help you determine which vendor would fit your office and budget best." [[Politico, 5/27/11](#)]

### **Tipton's Nephew Started as CEO of Broadnet Teleservices, LLC**

In 2004, Scott Tipton's nephew started Broadnet Teleservices, LLC that deals in telecommunications services.

According to the [Cortez Journal](#), Broadnet has a “product that allows people to participate in live, town hall types of telephone conversations - conducted by everyone from political figures to sports organizations.” [Colorado Secretary of State Records, accessed 6/21/11; [Cortez Journal, 9/07/10](#)]

### **January – March 2011: Tipton Spent Over \$2,500 on iConstituent**

In February 2011, Tipton’s congressional disbursement report showed that his office spent \$1,750 on IConstituent LLC for web and email services. On March 17, 2011, Tipton reported that he spent another \$750 on IConstituent LLC for web and email services. On February 14, 2011, Tipton reported that he spent \$178 on IConstituent LLC for maintenance/repairs.

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Date	Payee	Service Dates	Description	Amount
02-10	IICONSTITUENT LLC	02/01/11 02/28/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	1,750.00
03-17	IICONSTITUENT LLC	03/01/11 03/31/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	750.00
02-14	IICONSTITUENT	01/13/11 01/13/11	MAINTENANCE / REPAIRS	178.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>2,678.00</b>

### **April – June 2011: Tipton Did Not List Any Payments to iConstituent.**

Statement of Disbursements of the House, April 1, 2011, through June 30, 2011 did not contain any payments to iConstituent. [112<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session, Statement of Disbursements, [April 1, 2011 to June 30, 2011](#)]

### **July – September 2011: Tipton Spent \$7,000 in Payments to iConstituent**

In September 2011, Tipton’s congressional disbursement report showed that his office spent \$7,000 at iConstituent. Between July and September Tipton paid iConstituent, however, there were service dates between April and June.

Date	Payee	Service Dates	Description	Amount
12-Jul	IICONSTITUENT	04/01/11- 04/30/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	\$750.00
12-Jul	IICONSTITUENT	05/01/11- 05/31/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	\$750.00
12-Jul	IICONSTITUENT	06/01/11- 06/30/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	\$750.00
12-Jul	IICONSTITUENT	07/01/11- 07/31/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	\$750.00
19-Aug	IICONSTITUENT	08/01/11- 08/31/11	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD SERV	\$750.00
30-Aug	IICONSTITUENT	02/15/11- 02/15/11	TECHNOLOGY SERVICE CONTRACTS	\$2,500.00
13-Sep	IICONSTITUENT	09/01/11-	WEB DEV HST,EMAIL & RLTD	\$750.00

	09/30/11	SERV	
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$7,000.00</b>

[112<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1<sup>st</sup> Session, Statement of Disbursements, [July 1, 2011 - September 30, 2011](#)]

### Made News for Accusations of Corruption and Dirty Tricks Associated with Broadnet

In 2011, the Colorado Independent reported that Tipton faced accusations of ethical issues involving Broadnet. “Tipton has made news in the short months since he took office for accusations of corruption and dirty tricks. He was investigated by and apologized to a House ethics committee for pushing communication services through his offices for Broadnet, a company where his daughter worked as a lobbyist and where his nephew worked as CEO.” [Colorado Independent, 12/9/11]

### Defended His Position that Daughter’s Employer Does Not Work for the Government

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Congressman, you said that that Broadnet does not work for the government, do you stand by that statement today?” Tipton responded “I sure do.” In a follow up, Tipton was asked “How are you defining ‘does not work for the government?’” Tipton responded “They do not sell directly to the government, they do not sell directly to congressional office.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### Broadnet does “Not Sell to Subsidiaries. These Are Privately Held Companies”

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked about “so Broadnet has a series of subsidiaries...” Tipton replied, “No, not subsidiaries. They actually, I learned more about this that, and you broad sided me with that question on the previous one, for point of clarity, where you mentioned, Rob, in the opening that you’d sent me an e-mail as a head ups, I didn’t receive that. But, nevertheless, they do not sell to subsidiaries. These are privately held companies. Broadnet, as I have learned is basically labeled as a technology company and privately held companies that they have no part in, lease that technology.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### Broadnet Had “No Control Over Those Companies or Who They Sell To”

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Congressman, Politico reports that Broadnet provides more than 100 congressional offices with tele-town hall services via various vendors. So I would just have to say to the common person out here, we would say that Broadnet provides services to over 100 congressional offices in return for tax payer dollars...So I’m having a hard time understanding the statement that Broadband does not work for the government.” Tipton responded “I’m trying to draw a correlation there for you...in sense that you license yours out to privately held radio station. And do they pay you something for that? They probably do. But you have no connection with those privately owned radio stations for your program. So that’s probably maybe, maybe not the best baffle, but that same sort of thing where licensed technology that people use that you have no control over those companies or who they sell to, and that’s it.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

The Colorado Independent wrote, “the details of the charge underline an establishment attitude that views government as an all-in-the-family cash cow that trades almost entirely on access. As Tea Partiers might say, it’s not a government of the people, it’s a government of insiders looking to tap resources and line their pockets for as long as they can stay in office.” [Colorado Independent, [5/27/11](#)]

## **Could Not Answer Why Daughter Wrote Letters to Congress on Behalf of Broadnet**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Why would your daughter be writing letters on behalf of Broadnet to your fellow Congress people?” Tipton responded, “You know, that’s something Broadnet’s probably better at answering than I can. The bottom line here is that their job was just to make people aware of the technology company...You know, when we talked about transparency, I think one of the good things coming out are these telephone town hall meetings, where people can call in and visit with you directly, and ask questions directly...and there are multiplicity of vendors out there, in fact the vendor we use is the same one John Salazar used. And it was the most cost effective.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Admitted Nephew Owned Broadnet**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Broadnet is owned by your nephew . . . correct?” Tipton answered “Correct.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Shared Apartment with Daughter on Capitol Hill**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked whether “You and your daughter share an apartment on Capitol Hill, correct?” Tipton indicated that he did. [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Refused to Answer When Daughter Started at Broadnet**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked when “Your daughter...went to work for Broadnet officially when?” Tipton responded “I think she started right after [Unclear] the Christmas term.” On a follow up, Tipton was asked “When was she offered that job” Tipton responded “It was my understanding...after she’d done her internship a year or so ago, that when she was getting ready to graduate from college that they had a job for her.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Would Not Discuss Specific Terms of Daughter’s Employment at Broadnet**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Was there an official offer made to her” Tipton responded, “You know, I can’t tell you, you know we’re getting into the weeds of family business...and in her personal business as well.” When asked “Can you get us that date when you get to Washington?” Tipton responded “You know, I can probably ask her, if she chooses. . . This has been, very difficult on her because she didn’t do anything wrong.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Never Instructed Broadnet or Nephew About the Appropriate Relationship When He Entered Congress**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Were you aware that Broadnet through licenses its products through subsidiaries that do work with Congress?” Tipton responded, “Was I aware of that? Sure.” In a follow up, Tipton was asked “Ok. When your daughter accepted the job with Broadnet, a company that is founded, co-founded and run by your nephew, did you ever have a discussion with your nephew about the appropriate relationship between Broadnet’s employees and Congress, now

that you are an elected Congressman?” Tipton responded, “You know, it’s not my business and they do not sell directly to members of congress period.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **First Learned Of Daughter Using His Name from Member of the Press**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “Congressman, when did you first learn your daughter was using her relationship with you in introductory e-mails when she was contacting Congressional offices? When did you first become aware of that?” Tipton responded, “When a reporter came out. And if you really want to get into that, in Washington they have flashcards when you get there to memorize all the new freshman names and their faces. And when she went in people have asked about the relationship, and so it was a point of clarity rather than trying to hide something.” Tipton was asked in a follow up, “how did you first learn that your daughter was using. . .” Tipton responded “It was actually through the press, I didn’t know it.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Believed Daughter Used His Name Innocently As A Point of Clarity when Selling Products on Capitol Hill**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “So the press approached you and said are you aware that your daughter has sent e-mails to other offices?” Tipton responded, “Yes, and you know to underscore that that was done innocently as point of clarity. You know there’s no there there.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Tipton Asked Daughter Not to Use His Name, Sent Letter to Ethics Committee**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “In those press contacts there are a number of the news reports that suggest that there were rumors around Washington that an ethics complaint was going to be filed against you concerning these contacts. Did you learn of those rumors? First of all, did you hear of any of those rumors? Did you learn of those rumors prior to your letter to the ethics committee?” Tipton responded, “Actually we were proactive. Because when I found out...I said it’s in your interest not to use my name, and secondly then, I was the one who went to the Ethics Committee, explained it, talked to Congressman Bonner, and he said you have no connection to this. There is not an ethics issue but if you want to submit a letter, we’ll get a letter back to you. So I was the one that was proactive on that.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Broadnet Incident Is “Washington Politics and This is the Way They Do Business”**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show “Congressman Tipton, Politico is also reporting that your spokesperson, Josh Green, when asked for a statement on this matter, blamed this on Nancy Pelosi, sending her top lap dog to Colorado to engage in some sleazy political attacks on you. So when did you become aware of the fact that Nancy Pelosi and her lap dogs were trying to dig up dirt on you?” Tipton responded “Well...I think anybody with clear vision on it can see this as just politics, and you know it’s Washington politics and this is the way they do business. And obviously we’re going to have a competitive race in the third...” In an follow up, “What evidence do you have that the Democrats were, did anything on this? “ Tipton responded “Where did it come from . . . you’re the ones that first raised the question; maybe you could answer that for me.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Nephew's Ownership of Broadnet "Hadn't Even Crossed" His Mind When Originally Interview About Broadnet**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show “The other question I had Scott is, I asked you and I’ll take you at your word that you didn’t see my e-mail earlier in the day, but I asked you at the beginning of that, what was the relationship between Broadnet, and you never mentioned to us that Broadnet is a family owned company. Why didn’t you mention that?” Tipton responded, “Well first of all...it was a question obviously that hadn’t even crossed my mind. And I didn’t receive your e-mail to give me a heads up on it to give it some thought. And real honestly Rob, if you want full disclosure Rob, I’ve got one other nephew that’s going to be starting landscaping business. You know, I didn’t know where you all wanted to go with it, and I wasn’t aware that I needed to point out every family relationship.”

In a follow up question, “Scott, I’m sorry. Maybe you think that’s funny, but you don’t think that it’s relevant given that...” Tipton responded, “Given that I didn’t know where your questions was going at the very beginning of it, which you can probably gather from my answer, I didn’t realize that I needed to try and connect all of the different dots on it...” The questioner continued, “Do you think the landscaping business of your other nephew will be providing landscaping services to 100 congressional offices?” Tipton responded, “I don’t know...Cari...we can go on that direction, this is a privately held company that does not sell directly to Congress, and you can’t get away from that very important point. This is licensed out, you’ve got a whole host of vendors. Every congressional office has, they do not promote individual vendors, it’s just the technology...it’s real important to...Congress to be able to stay in contact with their office. [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Indicated He Believed the National Democrats, Pelosi, Hoyer, Behind Broadnet Attacks**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “And I want to ask you again because Josh Green, your spokesman, did tell Politico that Nancy Pelosi has sent her top lap dog to Colorado to try to dig up sleazy political attacks on you, or to start sleazy political attacks. What evidence do you have that Nancy Pelosi and the Democrats are behind this, and when did you first become aware of it?” Tipton responded “It’s maybe an assumption from the stand point that I have no personal connection with this issue at all, nor did my office. But we’ve had Steny Hoyer in Colorado soliciting candidates to run in the third that is an extension that Josh makes.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

## **Felt Like He Was Broadsided in Broadnet When First Asked; Gave “Information That Seemed Reasonable at the Time”**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “All right, final question Scott, in light of all that has transpired, do you think that you were transparent with this show and our audience on April the 7<sup>th</sup> when we asked you questions relating to the relationship between Broadnet, your daughter, and her job as a government relations specialist, and you said that Broadnet does not work for the government at that time. You feel that was forthcoming and that there was no need to even get back to us at some point and let us know you’d learned more about how this developed, or let our audience know about more about how this developed?” Tipton responded “We’re obviously going to, maybe, disagree on that, but I think given that I was broad-sided with that question and it’s something that we’ve had nothing to do with. You know I gave you information that seemed reasonable at the time. I’ll underscore

again that Broadnet does not sell directly to, they only license it out to private companies, who then market their products to members so that was forthcoming.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Tipton Claimed Daughter’s Use of Father’s Name “Was Almost a Point of Reference”**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “You do live with your daughter on Capitol Hill. Did she ever raise the issue of the letter with you and or the fact that she was going to mention in the letter that she was your daughter?” Tipton responded “Yeah, like I’ll underscore again, this was almost a point of reference because people queried her as to whether or not she was my daughter. And she used it as a point of reference. And...that was her stand on it. And when I found out about it, I said don’t do that and she readily agreed.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Did Not Know Licensee He Used Was Licensed Through Broadnet**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked “And you did not know that that licensee was licensed through Broadnet?” Tipton answered, “You know, we were strictly....and I found out that they do license it, but that wasn’t a consideration. We were trying to get the most cost effective way of reaching out to constituents.” [The Cari and Rob Show, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Apologized for Daughters Use of His Name in Soliciting Business from Members of Congress**

In May 2011, according to the Beaumont Enterprise, Tipton apologized to House ethics officers, “for emails his daughter sent to some lawmakers mentioning her father in an attempt to drum up business for her employer, a telephone conference provider for members of Congress” [Beaumonte Enterprise, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Headline: Radio hosts call Tipton answers to Broadnet ethics questions “Clintonian”**

In 2011, Tipton was criticized by talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas for dodging their questions on a potential ethics violation associated with his daughter soliciting business on the hill. The Colorado Independent reported “Steamboat Springs talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas were clearly unsatisfied with answers Colorado Congressman Scott Tipton provided on their show this morning in response to questions about potential ethics violations committed when Tipton’s daughter used his name to solicit business on Capitol Hill as part of her ‘government relations’ job with tele-townhall firm Broadnet. The hosts probed and Tipton parried. Afterward, Hermacinski and Douglas lamented that the congressman seemed intent to fudge on the issue. They said his reaction to the story was evasive, that he gave the kind of parsing non-answers Americans have grown accustomed to hearing from politicians in trouble. ‘I find his answers even more Clintonian now than in April,’ said Douglas, referring to President Bill Clinton who famously dodged questions about his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky with lawyerly half-answers.” [Colorado Independent, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Tipton’s Answers on Potential Ethics Violation were Unsatisfying**

In 2011, Tipton was criticized by talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas for dodging their questions on a potential ethics violation associated with his daughter soliciting business on the hill. Hermacinski said Tipton’s evasive answers were unsatisfying and underlined the

disconnect between politicians in Washington and the voters in what she called “checkbook America.” [Colorado Independent, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Tipton Said Daughter Did Internship at Broadnet Before Being Hired and That it was a Private Company that Didn’t Do Work for Government**

In 2011, Tipton was criticized by talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas for dodging their questions on a potential ethics violation associated with his daughter soliciting business on the hill. Tipton said his daughter had “done an internship” with Broadnet in 2010 and then said Broadnet is a “private company... [that] does not work for the government.” [Colorado Independent, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Tipton Initially Failed to Admit that His Nephew Headed Broadnet**

In 2011, Tipton was criticized by talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas for failing to mention that his nephew, Steve Patterson headed Broadnet when he was asked about a potential ethics violation. The Colorado Independent reported “Tipton never mentioned that Broadnet is headed by his nephew, Steve Patterson, and that it provides more than 100 congressional offices with tele-townhall services through companies such as iConstituent, DCS and Zata[3]... The news prompted Hermacinski and Douglas to ask Tipton to appear today on their radio show to explain. They wanted to know if he thought he was being forthright with their listeners in April.” [Colorado Independent, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Even If One Step Removed, Broadnet was being Paid with Tax Payer Money**

In 2011, Tipton said to talk radio hosts Cari Hermacinski and Rob Douglas that Broadnet did not do business with the government because the vendor companies provide a crucial buffer. The Colorado Independent reported “If that is true, however, he failed to explain why his daughter would be directly soliciting business from lawmaker offices for Broadnet. Hermacinski pointed out that, even if one-step removed, Broadnet is being paid with tax money, that it is doing booming business in Washington and that that fact will be clear to listeners.” [Colorado Independent, [5/31/11](#)]

### **Tipton Admitted Daughter’s Actions to Drum Up Business Were “Improper” in Letter to House Ethics Committee**

In 2011, Tipton said his daughter’s actions were “improper” in a letter to the House Ethics Committee. Elizabeth Tipton dropped Tipton’s name in emails to other congressional offices, looking to drum up business for the telecommunications company Broadnet. [9 News, [5/26/11](#)]

### **Tipton’s Letter to House Committee on Ethics Apologized and Said Daughters Actions Were Wrong**

On May 26, 2011, Tipton wrote a letter to the House Committee on Ethics. The letter read, “My 22 year old daughter, Elizabeth, recently graduated from college and started a job at Broadnet, Inc. a company that principally serves as vendor for telephone conference service providers and service users which include congressional offices. Broadnet, Inc. does not sell directly to offices and their employees are not commissioned. In the course of Elizabeth’s duties she mentioned to several House offices that she is my daughter. This reference was made casually in introductory emails purely as a point of reference to both Republican and Democratic offices. I have consulted

my staff and the House Ethics Rules and I do not believe this to be a violation of any ethics rule. However, I do believe it to be an improper use of my name and I would like to apologize and assure you that it will not happen again. If there are any other measures that must be taken in this regard please let me know and I will be happy to do so.” [Rep. Tipton, Letter to the Committee on Ethics, [5/26/11](#)]

### **Tipton Faced Embarrassment from Letter His Daughter Wrote Dropping His Name for Family-Connected Business**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton “faces potential embarrassment over letters sent by his daughter, Elizabeth, in which she dropped daddy’s name to seek business for the family-connected telecommunications firm where she works.”

Denver Westword wrote, “Elizabeth Tipton works for Broadnet, a tele-townhall services firm co-founded by Steve Patterson, Scott Tipton’s nephew. She tried to drum up business via e-mails that preceded a pitch with the statement, “I am Congressman Tipton’s daughter...”

Tipton wrote a letter apologizing to the House Committee on ethics. Denver Westword wrote, “And just so we’re clear, folks, you don’t send contrite explanations to the House Ethics Committee about your daughter’s job unless you’ve got a problem. [Blog, Denver Westword, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Elizabeth Tipton Started Working for Broadnet When Her Father Became a Congressman in DC**

Elizabeth Tipton went to work as a government relations specialist at Broadnet in January 2011, when her father took office. Her LinkedIn profile also listed her role as the social media director for her father’s 2010 congressional campaign, the profile has since been removed. [Politico, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Tipton Sent Letter to House Ethics Committee Yesterday Admitting that Daughters Emails Were “Improper”**

On May 26, 2011, Rep. Tipton sent a letter to the House ethics committee apologizing for “improper” e-mails his daughter sent using his name to solicit business for the tele-town hall services company where she’s employed. Elizabeth Tipton was hired by Broadnet, a tele-town hall services company when her father took office in January 2011 and sold the services around Capitol Hill, introducing herself as the congressman’s daughter. [Politico, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Elizabeth Tipton Used Father’s Name to Solicit Business for Broadnet Across Capitol Hill**

In 2011, it was reported that Elizabeth Tipton wrote emails to congressional staffers introducing herself using her father’s name. “I am Congressman Tipton’s daughter,” one of the emails began. “I am currently working with Broadnet, and we do telephone town hall meetings. I left a packet and flash drive at the office that demonstrate our product. We have several vendors on the hill … so I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and help you determine which vendor would fit your office and budget best.” [Politico, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Tipton Admitted to Using Broadnet Vendor That Daughter Sold Across Capitol Hill**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton's office admitted to using one of Broadnet's vendors, iConstituent. "Broadnet provides more than 100 congressional offices with tele-town hall services via various vendors—companies like iConstituent, DCS and Zata|3." [Politico, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Steve Patterson, Tipton's Nephew is CEO of Broadnet; He and His Wife Gave Contributions to Tipton's Campaign**

In 2011, it was reported that Colorado-based company Broadnet was co-founded in 2004 by Steve Patterson, Tipton's nephew. Patterson is the current CEO of the company. Patterson and his wife, Angela, gave \$750 to Tipton in 2005, and Angela was a max-out donor in 2010 according to FEC filings. [Politico, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Tipton's Daughters Actions Were Described as "Unseemly" After She Solicited Business Across Capitol Hill Using Father's Name**

In 2011, legal experts described Rep. Tipton's daughter's actions as "unseemly" after she solicited business on Capitol Hill for a tele-town hall company using her father's name. [Politico, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Rep. Tipton Bought Broadnet Product that His Daughter Sold with Taxpayer Money: Ethics Questions Lingered**

In 2011, the Denver Post reported Rep. Tipton "used a vendor of Broadnet, called Iconstituent, for his only tele-town hall in the first quarter. The same vendor also services his newsletter and communications database, said Tipton spokesman Josh Green. According to House rules, no member of Congress can receive any financial benefits because of their elected position. The gift rule states that relatives of members of Congress, for the purpose of enforcement, should be treated as members. In his letter to the Ethics Committee, Tipton said he had 'consulted my staff and the House Ethics Rules and I do not believe this to be a violation of any ethics rule.'"

Colorado Ethics Watch Director Luis Toro issued a statement saying Tipton's actions, "put into question whether Rep. Tipton or his family are using his elected office for personal gain, rather than to serve the interests of his constituency." [Denver Post, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Elizabeth Tipton Wrote Letter Drumming Up Business with Father's Name: "I am Congressman Tipton's daughter...I am Currently Working with Broadnet"**

In 2011, the Denver Post reported that Elizabeth Tipton worked in Washington for Colorado-based Broadnet, which set up "teletown hall" meetings between elected officials and constituents. Elizabeth Tipton wrote "I am Congressman Tipton's daughter ... I am currently working with Broadnet, and we do telephone town hall meetings. I left a packet and a flash drive at the office that demonstrates our product ... I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you and help you determine which vendor would fit your office and budget needs." [Denver Post, [5/27/11](#)]

### **Steve Patterson Defended Elizabeth Tipton Saying She Didn't Do Anything Wrong**

In 2011, the Denver Post reported that the CEO of Broadnet, Steve Patterson, was Tipton's nephew. And Patterson's wife gave the maximum \$2,400 to Tipton's Congressional campaign.

Patterson claimed he didn't know Elizabeth was introducing herself as the congressman's daughter in emails. He said he stood by her and that she didn't mean to do anything wrong. "She wasn't coached to leverage her relationship," Patterson said. "But I don't think that's how she intended it ... I think she was just saying this is who my dad is." He went on to say, "Elizabeth isn't really doing anything wrong. If anything, it's difficult to see the crosshairs of politics," he said. "I stand by her." [\[Denver Post, 5/27/11\]](#)

### **Elizabeth Tipton Started Full Time Position at Broadnet the Same Month Her Father was Sworn in to Congress**

In 2011, the Denver Post reported that Elizabeth Tipton started her full time position at Broadnet the same month her father was sworn in to Congress. Elizabeth started working for Broadnet as an intern in 2008. She was a part-time employee with the company since then. Elizabeth shared an apartment in DC with her father. [\[Denver Post, 5/27/11\]](#)

### **Tipton Apologized on Behalf of Daughter Who Solicited Business Using His Name for Nephew's Company**

In 2011, the Denver Post reported that Tipton sent a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives Ethics Committee apologizing on behalf of his daughter after she emails to members of Congress soliciting business for a company run by Tipton's nephew dropping Tipton's name. "I believe it to be an improper use of my name and I would like to apologize and assure you that it will not happen again," Tipton wrote. [\[Denver Post, 5/27/11\]](#)

### **After it was Disclosed that Tipton Used Taxpayer Money to Purchase Vendor Services from Daughter's Company, An Ethics Investigation was Ongoing**

In 2011, Tipton confirmed that he used a Broadnet vendor called iConstituent in his Congressional office after he apologized that his daughter, who worked for Broadnet was using his name to obtain business for the company. The Ethics committee investigation into the matter was ongoing.

Colorado Democratic Party Chairman Rick Palacio accused Tipton of "unprofessionalism" in a statement. "After five months in office, it's time for Scott Tipton to get control over the functions of his office and start acting like a Congressman," Palacio wrote. [\[Associated Press, 5/27/11\]](#)

### **Tipton May Have Violated Ethics Rules After Spending Over \$7,000 of Taxpayer Money on Vendors of Broadnet**

In 2011, the Associated Press wrote Tipton "may have violated ethics rules after he spent more than \$7,000 from his House office account on vendors that contract with his nephew's company. Members of Congress are forbidden from hiring family members, including nieces and nephews. But the rules are less clear on contract work, according to the Denver Post." Tipton spent over \$7,000 in taxpayer on money on iConstituent and Constituent Services, both companies were vendors of Broadnet, owned by Tipton's nephew, Steve Patterson. [\[Associated Press, 6/9/11\]](#)

## **Tipton Spent \$7,771 in Taxpayer Money on Technology that He Knew was Provided by His Nephew**

In 2011, invoices from Tipton's office showed he paid \$7,771 to iConstituent and Constituent Services Inc. for newsletters and an April tele-town hall. Both companies were vendors of Broadnet, "which means they pay the company to use its technology." Broadnet was owned by Steve Patterson, Tipton's nephew. Tipton said he used the technology because it was used by his predecessor. Tipton was aware that the technology he used was provided by Broadnet. [[Denver Post, 6/9/11](#)]

## **After Broadnet Scandal Tipton was Perceived as Someone Who Played Fast and Loose with the Rules**

In 2011, Tipton apologized for his daughter Elizabeth's "tactic of dropping daddy's name while seeking clients for Broadnet, the family-related telecommunications firm where she works." A blog called [Denver Westwood](#) commented, 'Even if Tipton doesn't become the subject of an ethics probe, he's now perceived as someone who plays fast and loose with the rules -- and that's the kind of reputation that can follow him all the way until the next election day. [Blog, [Denver Westwood, 6/9/11](#)]

## **Colorado Ethics Watch Pledged to Look into Whether Tipton or His Family Personally Gained from His Position in Office**

In 2011, the Colorado Independent reported that Government watchdog group Colorado Ethics Watch was looking into potential ethics violation associated with Tipton's daughter and nephew and Broadnet. "Government watchdog group Colorado Ethics Watch said it was looking into the story. 'While it is not clear whether Representative Tipton violated any specific ethics rules, these actions put into question whether Rep. Tipton or his family are using his elected office for personal gain rather than to serve the interests of his constituency,' said Director Luis Toro in a press release. 'Ethics Watch will be taking a close look at this situation, focusing specifically on when Rep. Tipton was first aware that this was happening.'" [[Colorado Independent, 5/31/11](#)]

## **Ethics Committee Decision on Whether Tipton's Daughter Violated Ethics Rules Pending**

On May 26, 2011, Tipton apologized for his daughter's "improper" emails to congressional offices trying to drum up business for her employer. His office awaited a response from the Ethics Committee. The Associated Press reported "Tipton's 22-year-old daughter Elizabeth works for Broadnet Inc., a telephone conference provider that serves members of Congress. Elizabeth Tipton sent e-mails to some lawmakers that mentioned her father." [[Associated Press, 5/27/11](#)]

## **Tipton Sent Letter to House Ethics Committee Yesterday Admitting that Daughters Emails Were "Improper"**

On May 26, 2011, Rep. Tipton sent a letter to the House ethics committee apologizing for "improper" e-mails his daughter sent using his name to solicit business for the tele-town hall services company where she's employed. Elizabeth Tipton was hired by Broadnet, a tele-town hall services company when her father took office in January 2011 and sold the services around Capitol Hill, introducing herself as the congressman's daughter. [[Politico, 5/27/11](#)]

## **Headline: “Ethics Question: Tipton defends spending with vendors that work with nephew’s firm”**

In 2011, Tipton reportedly spent over \$7,000 from his House office account on vendors that contracted with his nephew’s company. The [Denver Post](#) reported that the transaction “could violate ethics rules on giving work to relatives. Members of Congress are forbidden from hiring family members, including nieces and nephews. But the rules are less clear on contract work.” [Denver Post, [6/9/11](#)]

### **Executive Director for Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics said Tipton’s Actions Went Against Intent of Anti-Nepotism Rules**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton used taxpayer money on vendors that contracted with his nephew’s company. Melanie Sloan, executive director for Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics said “Anti-nepotism rules exist and were clearly intended that you do not use official taxpayer money to hire relatives at all... Whether it’s a technical violation or not,” Sloan said, “it’s probably not the smartest thing.” [Denver Post, [6/9/11](#)]

### **Steering Contracts to Family Members was Called “Ethical Gray Area”**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton used taxpayer money on vendors that contracted with his nephew’s company. The [Denver Post](#) reported, “Steering contracts and subcontracts to family members is an ethical gray area, but if the sum of money is big enough, it can spark an investigation. Karl Sandstrom, a Washington-based private lawyer and former federal election commissioner, said it certainly would not have been hard for Tipton to avoid the appearance of favoritism: He could have picked another company. ‘You’re supposed to avoid even the appearance of your office being used for private personal gain,’ he said.” [Denver Post, [6/9/11](#)]

## Republican Party Politics

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Former Third District Republican Chairman*
- ✓ *Decided not to run for state Senate at the behest of party leaders*
- ✓ *Worked on the George W. Bush Campaign*
- ✓ *Claimed to play a “major role” in the Ronald Reagan campaign*

Scott Tipton's political involvement with the Republican Party began with Tipton serving as a delegate for Ronald Reagan at the 1976 Republican Convention. After that, Tipton worked on both of President Reagan's election campaigns. Tipton has been involved in Colorado Republican Party politics serving as the Montezuma County Republican Chair and the Third Congressional District Republican Chair. Tipton has worked on numerous campaigns in Colorado as well as on George W. Bush's presidential campaign.

### Defeated Dick Wadhams as a Delegate to the 1976 Republican Convention

In 1976, Tipton defeated Dick Wadhams, who would later become a political consultant on the national level, for a spot to the 1976 Republican National Convention. Tipton supported Ronald Reagan at the time while Wadhams was a Gerald Ford supporter. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 2/21/04]

### Worked on the Reagan Campaign in 1980 and 1984

In 1980 and 1984, Tipton played “major roles” in the Ronald Reagan for President Campaign. [[votetipton.com](#), accessed 2006]

### Chair, Scott McInnis for Congress

From 1992 to 2002, Scott Tipton served as the chair for Scott McInnis for Congress. [[votetipton.com](#), accessed 2006]

### Worked on Numerous Republican Candidate's Campaigns in Colorado

In 2006, Tipton claimed he worked in “various roles” for the campaigns of Scott McInnis, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, and Bill Owens. [[votetipton.com](#), accessed 2006]

### Worked on the George W. Bush Campaign

In 2006, Tipton claimed to work on the George W. Bush campaign for President. [votetipton.com, accessed 2006]

### **Served as Montezuma County Republican Chairman**

In 2006, Tipton claimed to be the former Montezuma County Republican Chairman. [votetipton.com, accessed 2006]

### **Served as Colorado's Third District Republican Chairman**

From 1997 to 2006, Tipton served as Colorado's Third District Republican Chairman. [[National Journal](#), 9/08/03]

#### **Addressed the Possibility of Nominating a Candidate in Case McInnis Resigned**

In 2003, Tipton, as Colorado's third district Republican chair, said that a process to choose a Republican candidate would be "open."

At the time, there was concern that McInnis was helping his brother-in-law, Representative Matt Smith of Grand Junction, become the Republican nominee. Smith's wife Judy was one of eleven people on the vacancy committee and according to Tipton, no rules prohibited her participation in the vote.

Tipton said that the group that would nominate a Republican successor was not an ad hoc group set up in anticipation of resignation. Its membership had been set at 11 since 1984.

Tipton was serving his third two-year term as Colorado's third district chairman [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 11/12/03]

#### **...Was Wrong About the Selection Process of Nominating a Candidate**

In 2003, after a review of the Colorado Republican Party bylaws, the rules indicated that an 11-member vacancy committee is used only when the party's nominee dies before an election, said State GOP Chairman Ted Halaby.

If the vacancy was created by the death or resignation of the incumbent congressional representative, the district officers were supposed to call a convention of the district's entire central committee in order to choose a candidate. That committee contained about 100 members.

Tipton's decision was also unpopular amongst rank and file members of the Republican Party. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 12/06/03]

### **Tried to Recruit Scott McInnis to Run for Governor**

In 2004, Scott Tipton tried to recruit retiring Congressman Scott McInnis to run for governor of Colorado. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 3/09/05]

### **Decided Against Running for State Senate Race at Party Leadership's Behest**

In 2009, Tipton decided not to run against Ellen Roberts for Colorado State Senate.

Josh Penry, Senate Minority Leader, said he and Colorado Republican Party Chairman Dick Wadhams had spoken frequently about the seat and wanted to see Roberts run.

“The road back to the majority for Republicans begins in Southwest Colorado. We need to win that seat,” Penry said. “We also don’t want an ugly primary.”

Senior Republicans had talked throughout the spring with both Tipton and Roberts, Tipton said, deciding it was best to focus on his own re-election.

“My view is, I’ve got a job to do here right now.” [\[Durango Herald, 4/18/09\]](#)

### **Redistricting Played a Role in Deciding Not to Run For State Senate**

In 2009, Tipton said that part of his decision not to run for state senate was the fact that 2010 would be a year for redistricting.

“It’s part of the equation you can’t ignore,” Tipton said. [\[Durango Herald, 4/18/09\]](#)

### **Supported Scott McInnis Bid for Governor**

In 2009, Tipton supported Scott McInnis for his bid for Governor of Colorado.

“The bottom line is I’ve always viewed Scott McInnis as someone who stood up for the Western Slope but also stood up for Colorado,” Tipton said. [\[ColoradoPols.com, 3/22/09\]](#)

## Campaign History

### Significant Findings

- ✓ Considered running for Congress in 2004, 2006, and 2010
- ✓ Believe he should be Congressman because his district was predominantly Republican
- ✓ Put 50,000 miles on his second car, a Jaguar, while campaigning for Congress
- ✓ Criticized Salazar for being out of touch with the third Congressional district
- ✓ Tipton campaign claimed Salazar had “Gone Washington”
- ✓ Received campaign support from Bush’s cabinet members

**Scott Tipton considered running for Congress in 2004. In 2006, Tipton campaigned across the district in his Jaguar. Furthermore, Tipton’s campaign in 2010 criticized John Salazar for having “gone Washington.” In 2010, Tipton’s campaign received support from members of the Bush Administration.**

### **Considered a Potential Candidate in Open Colorado Congressional Seat**

In 2003, Tipton was listed by National Journal as a potential candidate in Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional district. The seat was an open seat vacated by Scott McInnis. [[National Journal](#), 9/9/03]

### **Announced as a Likely Candidate in the Colorado 3<sup>rd</sup> District Congressional Race**

In February 2004, Tipton considered running for the open seat in Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District. Claiming to be “on the verge” of running, Tipton went on to say that he had “everything in place” before deciding to officially announce his candidacy. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 2/21/04]

### **...But Decided Not to Run for Congress**

In March 2004, Tipton ruled out running for Congress. [[National Journal](#), 3/04/04]

### **... Children Were Not Old Enough for Him to Run**

In 2005, Tipton said that his children were simply not old enough for him to feel comfortable about making that race. [[Roll Call](#), 7/26/05]

## **Considered Running Against John Salazar for Colorado's 3<sup>rd</sup> District**

In March 2005, Tipton said he was “taking a serious and aggressive look” at running against Representative John Salazar (D) for his third district seat. Already endorsed by Governor Bill Owens , “Tipton, 48, appears to be the choice among numerous state Republicans.” [[Frontrunner](#), 3/23/05]

### **Believed Not Running in 2004 Gave Him a “Leg Up”**

In 2005, Tipton said that not running in 2004 in a crowded primary gave him an advantage in the 2006 Congressional race.

“One of my advantages now looking forward to 2006 is that I will be new blood going into this race,” said Tipton. [[National Journal](#), 4/29/05]

### **Believed a Republican Would be More Effective**

In 2005, Tipton was quoted in the Cortez Journal calling Salazar a “pleasant fellow” who “would always vote correctly on issues such as water, agriculture and multiple use.”

The difference, Tipton suggested, between him and Salazar was that a Republican could be more effective in a Republican-controlled Congress. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 6/13/05]

### **Walcher Candidacy Worried Party Leaders**

In July 2005, [Roll Call](#) reported that local and national Republicans were concerned that the candidacy of Greg Walcher could prove to be a challenge to Scott Tipton. Tipton was reported to be “aggressively” raising money and meeting with local and national leaders while Walcher was doing little to obtain the party nomination.

Concerns about Walcher stemmed from his stance on water issues in Colorado, which hurt him in the 2004 congressional race.

“Last cycle, the thing that killed us was the water issue,” said Carl Forti, communications director of the National Republican Congressional Committee. “There was only so much we could do. Walcher was on the wrong side.” [[Roll Call](#), 7/26/05]

## **Dirk Hallen was 2006 Campaign Manager**

In his 2006 campaign for Congress, Dirk Hallen was Scott Tipton’s campaign manager. [[Denver Post](#), 9/17/05]

### **“The Simple Politics of It” Made Tipton a Better Choice for Congress**

In 2005, Tipton though he was more qualified to be the Congressman of Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> district because a the Republican Congressman would be more effective in a Republican controlled Congress.

“Just looking at the simple politics of it, I think the district would be better off having a Republican congressman in a Republican-controlled Congress,” said Tipton. [[National Journal](#), 12/16/05]

### **Congressmen Cantor, Rogers, and Session Held a Fundraiser to Benefit Tipton**

In June 2006, Eric Cantor (Va.), Mike Rogers (Mich.) and Pete Sessions (Texas) held a “Challengers Helping Our Majority Program” fundraiser. They had hoped to raise \$700,000 for nine GOP challengers and open-seat candidates in hotly contested races. Scott Tipton was one of the beneficiaries of the fundraiser. [[Roll Call](#), 6/21/06]

### **Received Campaign Donations from Wayne Allard PAC**

In 2006, it was reported that Wayne Allard’s Changing Tide PAC donated \$5,000 to Scott Tipton’s campaign for Congress. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 7/19/06]

### **Traveled 50,000 Miles in His Jaguar Campaigning**

In 2006, Dirk Hallen, Tipton’s campaign manager, said that between Tipton’s Jaguar and his F-350 Ford truck, Tipton had logged about 50,000 miles traveling the 29-county district discussing issues such as energy self-sufficiency and the need for secure borders and a tightly controlled guest-worker program.

Hallen also said that Tipton bought the Jaguar used “because he is fiscally conservative.” [[Denver Post](#), 5/15/06]

### **Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez Hosted a Fundraiser for Tipton**

In August 2006, Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez hosted a fundraiser for Tipton. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/29/06]

### **Supported Bush Tax Cuts**

In 2006, both Secretary Gutierrez and Tipton supported the Bush Tax cuts.

“This is no time to be thinking about more taxes,” Gutierrez said, noting that national unemployment was only 4.8 percent and that the economy had added more than 5 million jobs in the past three years.

Tipton said he wanted to continue the low-tax policy to help the economy, work for energy independence and address the long-term funding problems of Social Security and Medicare. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/29/06]

### **Gutierrez Called for Lower Taxes on Oil Companies during Tipton Fundraiser**

In 2006, during a fundraiser for Scott Tipton, Sec. Gutierrez called for lower taxes on oil companies so that they would be more willing to invest in the United States.

“Their [Democrats’] idea is to punish the oil companies just at the time when we need them to make more investment in developing our country’s oil reserves,” he said. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/29/06]

### **Gutierrez Called for Drilling in ANWR during Tipton Fundraiser**

In 2006, during a fundraiser for Tipton, Sec. Gutierrez called for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska as a way to bring down oil prices. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/29/06]

### **Criticized Salazar for Not Being a Strong Leader for the People of Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> District**

In 2005, Tipton criticized Salazar for failing to be a strong leader and represent the people of Colorado’s Third Congressional district.

“We need leadership, and I don’t see that coming out of our current representative,” Tipton said.

Tipton said he would stand with the Republican majority in the House to shore up Social Security, toughen immigration laws, simplify the tax code and look out for his district on environmental issues. [Associate Press, 12/23/05]

### **Believed President Obama’s Election Was a Call for Bipartisanship**

In 2010, Tipton said that President Obama’s quoting of First Corinthians during his inaugural address was a call for bipartisanship. He went on to say that he hoped there would be more bipartisanship in Washington.

“I think that was a call for bipartisanship. I hope that’s the case,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), 1/21/09]

### **Told Salazar to “Rein In” Muslim Staffer for Comments about The Pope**

In 2006, Tipton called Nayyera Haq, Salazar’s press secretary, “out of control” with regards to her statements denouncing Representative Tom Tancredo who wrote a letter in support of Pope Benedict XVI.

Tancredo urged the pope to “resist calls to apologize” for quoting a 14<sup>th</sup> century Byzantine emperor who said, “Show me just what Mohammed brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached.”

Dirk Hallen, campaign director for Tipton, said the issue raised by Tipton was not one of religion or free speech, but one of Salazar’s inability to manage his staff.

“She inserted herself onto a soapbox she has only because she is John’s communications director,” Hallen said. “I can’t imagine what would happen if I made inflammatory statements about another member of Congress.” [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 9/23/06]

### **Salazar Criticized Tipton for Supporting Mark Foley**

In 2006, Salazar attacked Tipton for his support of National Republican leader Mark Foley who resigned amid accusations that he engaged in sexually explicit e-mails with congressional pages.

“Saying you support rural values on the one hand and then supporting a GOP leadership that puts politics before the safety of our children just won’t work,” Salazar said in a statement. [[Denver Post](#), 10/03/06]

### **Tipton Denounced Foley**

In 2006, Tipton said he was outraged at the actions of Foley.

“I am calling on the powers that be to pursue a full investigation into this matter so citizens like myself can determine if any other parties are guilty of knowingly allowing this behavior to continue,” Tipton said in a statement. [[Denver Post](#), 10/03/06]

### **Tipton’s Campaign Manager Criticized Salazar for not being in the District Enough**

In 2006, Tipton’s campaign manager Dirk Hallen criticized Salazar for not being in the district enough. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 11/01/06]

### **Tipton’s Campaign Manager: Salazar “Gone Washington”**

In 2006, Tipton’s campaign manager Dirk Hallen accused Salazar of “going Washington” and flip-flopping on issues like immigration reform and taxes. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 11/01/06]

### **Considered Running for State Representative**

In November 2007, Scott Tipton was considering a run for State Representative, taking the seat of retiring Rep. Ray Rose. [[Denver Post](#), 11/05/07]

### **Tipton Made Official His Interest in Running for State Representative**

In December 2007, Tipton officially expressed his interest in running for the Colorado State Legislature.

“I’m seriously considering a run for House District 58 in 2008, but I want to take additional time over the Christmas and New Year’s holiday to discuss the idea with my family and close friends,” Tipton said. [[ColoradoPols.com](#), 12/05/07]

### **Tipton Announced Bid for Colorado 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional Seat**

In November 2009, Tipton announced that he would run again against John Salazar for Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional seat.

In announcing his candidacy, Tipton said that in nine months, the national deficit had tripled, the stimulus bills had grown government and Washington was forcing health care on voters.

Tipton went on to say that Salazar’s support for those initiatives was out of step with people in his district. [[Associated Press](#), 11/11/09]

## **Promised Support from Prominent Republicans**

In November 2009, ColoradoPols.com reported that several prominent Republicans had promised Tipton support in his 2010 bid for Congress. Those prominent figures included former Gov. Bill Owens, former Sen. Hank Brown and Pete Coors. [ColoradoPols.com, 11/12/09]

## **Colorado GOP Chair Said Republican Party Dominated by Inflexible Tea Party “Nuts”**

In February 2011, Colorado Republican Party Chair Dick Wadhams announced he was ending his bid for reelection. In deciding not to run for party chair, Wadhams cited frustration from Tea Party members who lacked political experience and flexibility, calling them “nuts”.

“I was confident of winning, but this incessant criticism wouldn’t let up even then,” said Wadhams. “They want to slash and burn and criticize – but they don’t have a clue about the chairman’s responsibilities,” said Wadhams. [[Colorado Independent, 2/09/11](#); [Colorado Independent, 2/09/11](#)]

## **Colorado Republican Party Chair Accused Party of Being Too Far Right**

In February 2011, Lynne Cottrell, Arapahoe County Republican chair, expressed concern that the Republican Party in Colorado was moving too far right and might be damaging to the party. [[Colorado Independent, 2/09/11](#)]

## **Jeff Baker Was Tipton’s 2010 Campaign Manager**

In 2010, Jeff Baker was Scott Tipton’s campaign manager. [[Durango Herald, 4/15/10](#)]

## **April 2010: Promoted to “Contender” Status by NRCC**

In April 2010, the NRCC promoted Tipton to “contender” status in its 2010 political cycle. [[Roll Call, 4/20/10](#)]

## **Won Top Line of the Ballot in Primary Challenge Against Bob McConnell**

In May 2010, Tipton won the top line of the ballot in a primary challenge against Bob McConnell. Tipton received 55 percent to Bob McConnell’s 45 percent. [[Denver Post, 5/22/10](#)]

## **Tipton and McConnell Battled for Votes Mainly on Western Slope**

In 2010, [The Pueblo Chieftain](#) reported that the Western Slope counties of Mesa, Montrose, Garfield, La Plata and others were “the real mother lode” of Republican votes, and where Tipton and McConnell were doing most of their campaigning. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 8/05/10](#)]

## **Tipton Defeated McConnell in Republican Primary**

In 2010, Tipton defeated McConnell in the Republican Primary for Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional seat. With 93 percent of the vote reported, Tipton lead McConnell 55.7-44.2 [[Denver Post, 8/11/10](#)]

## **McConnell Received More Votes in Pueblo Area than Tipton**

In 2010, McConnell received more votes in the Republican primary than Scott Tipton did. The margin was 50.3-49.6 percent. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/12/10]

## **McConnell Criticized Tipton for Being a “Politician”**

In 2010, McConnell criticized Tipton for his involvement with the NRCC, accusing him of being a “politician” who lacked the independent nature of Coloradoans.

“From where I sit [...] becoming involved with the NRCC confirms Scott is a politician. Frankly, after decades in the party system, that’s what he is despite the fact that lately he’s been implying that he is new to politics.” [Bob McConnell Press Release, 4/20/10]

## **Tipton Led Salazar in Polls**

In September 2010, Tipton led John Salazar in polls 51-43percent. [[Washington Post](#), 9/03/10]

## **September 2010: Named as a “Young Gun” in NRCC Recruitment Program**

In September 2010, Tipton was named as part of the NRCC’s “Young Guns” program.

Under the program, which included 75 Republican hopefuls, the candidates were positioned to receive fundraising and infrastructure help from the Republican National Committee. [[Politico](#), 9/16/10]

## **Salazar Launched Ad Painting Tipton as Wall Street Insider and Banker**

In September 2010, Salazar’s campaign launched an ad depicting Tipton as a Wall Street insider whose bank, Vectra Bank of Colorado, with which he was a member, received bailout funds.

The ad suggested that Vectra Bank received bailout money through the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/28/10]

## **Tipton Was No Longer Serving on Vectra Board at the time of TARP**

At the time of the TARP program, Tipton was no longer serving on the Vectra Bank board. [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/28/10]

## **Vectra Bank Did Not Receive TARP Funds Directly**

When TARP funds were distributed, the funds were not distributed to Vectra Bank directly, but to Zion’s Ban Corporation, Vectra Bank’s Holding Company. [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/28/10]

## **Accused Salazar of Using Earmarks to “Buy Votes”**

In October 2006, Tipton criticized Salazar of using his position on the House Transportation Committee to provide earmarks to counties in Colorado.

“This is essentially trying to buy our votes with our own money,” he said.

Tipton specifically referenced a bridge in Glenwood Springs as an example of “buying votes.” [[Montrose Daily Press, 10/14/06](#)]

### **Poll Conducted in Late October Showed Salazar with Growing Lead**

In October 2010, a poll conducted by Anzalone Liszt Research showed Salazar leading Republican Scott Tipton 46 percent to 38 percent.

When people were asked if they were more likely to vote Democrat or Republican in the Congressional race, they said Republican by a 47-37 margin, even though when asked later whom they would vote for, the Democrat, Salazar, was up by 8 points. [[Colorado Independent, 10/20/10](#)]

### **Tisha Casida Announced Bid for Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District**

In May 2011, Tisha Casida, originally from Vineland, CO, announced that she had plans to run for Colorado’s third congressional district seat in 2012.

Casida issued a press release accusing Tipton of supporting “a \$24 million transit system for Aspen, where private-sector funding would be more appropriate. He promised no cuts to Medicare and then voted for cuts to Medicare.”

Casida ran a marketing business called “That’s Natural”! She was also the publisher of a conservative newspaper called [The Good American Post](#). [[Durango Herald, 5/9/11](#)]

### **Pace Announced Planned Bid for Colorado’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District**

In 2011, Sal Pace, a Democrat in his second term in the Colorado General Assembly, confirmed that he would run against Tipton. Pace, 34, said he was interviewed by U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer, D-Md., and officials from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

“I’m honored that the former House Majority Leader (Hoyer) came to recruit me for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District,” he said “I’m going to be forming a campaign committee with the likelihood that I’m running.” [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/21/11](#)]

### **Third District Became More Competitive with Redistricting**

In 2011 after redistricting it was reported that the “sprawling, rural 3rd District on the Western Slope held by Republican Rep. Scott Tipton would become more competitive than it already is.” [[Aurora Sentinel, 11/15/11](#)]

### **Sided with Obama on Conservation Fund Unpopular with GOP**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton supported the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a program whose budget has been targeted by many Republicans in Congress. President Obama threatened to veto cuts to the conservation fund that Tipton added \$5 million to the budget of through a floor amendment. [[Denver Post, 10/11/11](#)]

### **Voted 93% Of The Time With The Majority Of The Republican Party**

In December 2011, Tipton had voted 93% of the time with the majority of the Republican Party. [[Denver Post, 12/25/11](#)]

*Note: Diana DeGette voted 96% of the time with her party during the same time period.*

### **Testified the Third Congressional District Didn't Need Change**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton testified at a redistricting trial that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District seemed ‘to work’ and did not need to be changed. Tipton said that the Western Slope, San Luis Valley, and Pueblo shared commonalities that made them a natural fit for the same district.

Tipton objected most strongly to the proposal from Latino groups to split the San Luis Valley and Pueblo from the Western Slope and join them with Greeley to give Hispanic voters a more prominent voice. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 10/18/11](#)]

### **Criticized by Conservative Radio Hosts for Voting with GOP Leadership**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton was criticized by conservative radio hosts from the syndicated ‘Cari and Rob Show’ for saying he would “fight to cut the government in half,” and failing to appear on the show once in office.

“He would cut it down by 50 percent. And what has he done, every time it’s come down to cast a difficult vote? He goes with [House Speaker] John Boehner. He goes with the leadership,” said co-host Cari Hemancinski. Tipton and his staff have failed to respond to the host’s requests to come on the show. “We warned our audience that there would be chameleons and charlatans amongst those the Liberty Movement sent to Washington in 2010. Unfortunately, Scott Tipton proved our point,” wrote Douglas. [[Huffington Post, 11/9/11](#)]

### **Conservative Talk Radio Host Said Tipton was Not a Real Fiscal Conservative**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton was criticized by conservative radio hosts from the syndicated ‘Cari and Rob Show’ for failing to stand with true fiscal conservatives. Co-host Rob promised he would not vote for Tipton in 2012. Douglas wrote, “There have been votes where Tipton did not stand with the true fiscal conservatives in Congress and instead aligned himself with Speaker Boehner and establishment Republicans who played a major role in creating our nation’s fiscal crisis during the Bush administration,” Douglas wrote to me. [[Huffington Post, 11/9/11](#)]

### **Personnel Costs Among Highest for Freshmen House Members**

In 2011, Tipton's six-month personnel costs were \$482,000, which was among the highest for freshmen House members. [Topeka Capital-Journal, 11/13/11]

### **District Remained Competitive After Redistricting Finalized**

In 2011, Tipton reportedly faced a more competitive district by about 2 points after redistricting. Tipton faced a competitive race from Democratic state Rep. Sal Pace. The Associated Press Reported "The sprawling 3rd District held by Scott Tipton remains competitive." [Denver Post, 11/12/11; AP, 11/11/11]

### **Redistricting Made Tipton More Vulnerable**

In 2011, the Washington Post political blog reported that Tipton was vulnerable after redistricting. His district got 1 percent better for Democrats, becoming a district where Obama and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) essentially tied in 2008. [The Fix, Washington Post, [11/16/11](#)]

### **3<sup>rd</sup> District was a Tossup**

In the 2011 redistricting map in Colorado Tipton's 3<sup>rd</sup> district was a tossup. [ColoradoPols.com, 12/5/11]

### **Headline: Dems' victory in redistricting battle means more competitive congressional races in Colorado**

In 2011, Tipton was expected to have a tough re-election after Democrats' triumphed in the redistricting battle. "With the Democrats' triumph in this decade's redistricting battle, Colorado is expected to host three competitive congressional races in next year, putting two Republican incumbents in tougher re-election contests. Two races are in the metro area, in seats held by Democrat Ed Perlmutter of Golden and Republican Mike Coffman of Aurora. The other is in the 3rd Congressional District, home to U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton, R-Cortez." [Denver Post, [12/6/11](#)]

### **Independent Tisha Casida Announced Against Tipton**

In 2011, independent Tisha Casida announced she would run against Tipton. She said she was disappointed in the Congressman because he did not demonstrate leadership on the Patriot Act, the Federal Reserve System and its effects on the nation's currency or the National Defense Authorization Act. Her campaign is organic and in its infancy, much like her business, That's Natural!, which promotes sustainable agriculture. Casida also has a real estate license and she publishes The Good American Post. [Colorado Independent, [12/1/11](#)]

### **Claimed to be Bipartisan**

In 2011, Tipton claimed to be bipartisan. "'Colorado freshmen Scott Tipton said that he thought "there's been a lot more of a heart there to work together on jobs here' in Congress." [Politico, [9/8/11](#)]

### **Received 62% Score From Heritage Action for America Score Card**

Tipton received 62% score from Heritage Action for America scorecard in August 2011 that encompassed 30 key votes and 5 co-sponsorships. [Heritage Action for America, accessed 8/29/11]

## **Declined to See Bin Laden Photos**

In 2011, Tipton said the day Bin Laden was killed, justice was delivered, however he declined to see pictures of bin Laden's body. Osama bin Laden is gone but we did not eliminate terrorism," said Tipton. He also said "You never like to look upon death and that was obviously a violent death." [NBC 11 News, [5/22/11](#)]

## **Tisha Casida Announced Bid Against Tipton as Independent Candidate**

In 2011, Tipton was running against Tisha Casida who announced she would run for the 3rd Congressional District as an independent candidate. "There are things I like about all the parties," she said in her announcement. "But the problem is the two-party system is not doing anything to solve our current economic problems." Casida said her campaign was less about challenging Tipton and more about finding ways to bring "prosperity and liberty back to Colorado." [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/14/11](#)]

## **Pace Announced Plan to Run Against Tipton**

In 2011, State Rep. Sal Pace, a Democrat in his second term in the General Assembly, confirmed that he would run against Tipton. Pace, 34, said he was interviewed by U.S. Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., and officials from the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. "I'm honored that the former House majority leader (Hoyer) came to recruit me for the 3rd District," he said "I'm going to be forming a campaign committee with the likelihood that I'm running." Pace worked on the campaign and became district manager for former U.S. Rep. John Salazar. Pace then managed Salazar's successful re-election campaign over Tipton in 2006. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/21/11](#)]

## **Said He was Lobbied by House Leadership and Didn't Know if Final 2011 CR Would Pass**

The host asked Tipton when Republicans would start seeing fiscal sanity. Tipton said "I'm very interested... I've been watching the votes as you are today. I've been lobbied by leadership aggressively on this, that we made need your vote and I told them you know you're not getting my vote, my word, I'm voting no. And that ends it that I continue to have varying levels of leadership coming up, pushing on it. So I don't think this is a foregone conclusion that this will pass." [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

## **Said He Supported Ryan Budget and Had Doubts on Whether 2011 CR Would Pass**

The host asked Tipton if there was a chance that the final 2011 CR bill would be voted down in house of representatives. Tipton said "I think there is that distinct possibility. I know that leadership is lobbying hard to make sure they get it; and they're lobbying on the Democrats side trying to get votes because there's been several other members now that have jumped off. I've had people ask my counsel, and I've told them how I'm voting and why and we've had several votes who have been turned to no off of that. And I think Jordan is pushing on that...I'm going to support the Ryan plan conceptually at least, it needs a lot of work and a lot of blanks to fill in but I think he may be able to pull off some votes today and this may not pass." [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

## **Headline: "Tipton Says He's Lost Trust in Boehner"**

In 2011, Tipton appeared on the “Cari and Rob Show” and indicated that he had lost trust on Boehner. Tipton said “Well, we have not followed through for only cutting \$352 million as a body... Three hundred fifty-two million dollars is far short, obviously, of the \$100 billion, and what we’ve likened it to time and again, even \$100 billion when we’re looking at the massive debt, deficit and even the spending during this fiscal year, \$3.7 trillion...”

He went on to say “There’s going to be a lot of frustration... because the one thing that you have that you value to the best of your ability is, what you’re saying is the truth. And I think the moving shell game, and it’s the problem I have with the CR [temporary budget extension supported by Tipton] is originally, and you kind of ran through the numbers Rob, \$38 billion, well, not really. Then it was taken down to about 20. Now we’re all the way down to \$352 million, according to the CBO. I think there needs to be some questions answered.”

Tipton was asked if his trust in Speaker Boehner had been damaged and he said “You know, I would say yes, but I will give him the caveat as I always give somebody an opportunity to explain. And I want to hear how we went from \$100 billion down to \$352 million.” [[Huffington Post, 4/18/11](#)]

### **Was Active in Politics from Early Age; Played Major Role in Reagan Campaign**

Tipton has been active in politics throughout his life. He majored in Political Science at Ft. Lewis College in Durango, was involved with the Ronald Reagan for President Campaign in 1976 and served as a delegate to the Republican National Convention. He played major roles in the Reagan campaign in Western Colorado in 1980 and 1984. [[Politico, accessed 3/4/11](#)]

### **Said Reagan was Model of Fiscal Restraint**

In March 2011, gave a floor speech on his experience seeing President Reagan at the Republican National Convention. He went on to criticize reckless spending and advocated for cuts. He said we must embrace Reagan’s prudence. [[Rep Scott Tipton Pays Tribute to Ronald Reagan, YouTube, 2/9/11](#)]

### **Chief Of Staff Mike Hesse Left His Office - Legislative Director Nicholas Zupancic Hired In His Place**

In 2012, Tipton’s chief of staff left his office to “pursue other opportunities in Colorado,” in Mike Hesse’s place Tipton hired his legislative director Nicholas Zupancic. “I’m grateful for the work Mike has put into my office and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors,” Tipton said, in a statement. “I’m confident that Nick will excel in his new position and will continue to play a key role in working with me and the rest of the staff to serve the people of the Third Congressional District.” [[Blog, Denver Post, 1/18/12](#)]

### **Recognized Two Constituents in the Congressional Record**

In 2011, Tipton recognized two of his constituents from the San Luis Valley in the Congressional Record, Cornelia Heersink and George Whitten. Heershink was an “original member of the Red Cross Gray Ladies” where she volunteered for 45 years, and Whitten was a World War II Veteran who fought on Iwo Jima. [[Valley Courier, 6/10/11](#)]

## **Pace Announced Challenge to Tipton and Accused Him of Being Too Partisan**

In 2011, Sal Pace, Colorado House's Democratic Leader, announced that he would challenge Tipton. Pace said Tipton was too partisan, "I think that the citizens of the third congressional district have a long a long history of congressmen who are less concerned with partisan bickering and more concerned with finding solutions."

Pace, 34, worked as former John Salazar's director of district offices before joining the Legislature in 2008. He quickly rose among the Democrats' ranks, and his colleagues chose him to be their party's leader in the House. [[Associated Press, 5/31/11](#)]

## **Tisha Casida Announced Run Against Tipton**

In 2011, Tisha Casida, 29, announced her run against Rep. Tipton, she was not registered with a political party. Casida issued a press release accusing Tipton of supporting " a \$24 million transit system for Aspen, where private-sector funding would be more appropriate. He promised no cuts to Medicare and then voted for cuts to Medicare," Casida said. Casida ran a marketing business called That's Natural! She was also the publisher of a conservative newspaper called The Good American Post. [[Durango Herald, 5/9/11](#)]

## **Headline: "Tipton's staff largess demands explanation"**

In 2011, in an editorial in the [Daily Sentinel](#), Tipton received criticism for paying his staff the most among House Freshmen in the first quarter of 2011. The editorial noted "Tipton's 3rd District is one of the most far-flung and mountainous in the country. However, the 21 people listed on his payroll during his first three months in office, according [to] the website Legistorm.com, is not a particularly large number for members of Congress. It's near the middle of the pack."

The editorial continued, "Tipton owes his constituents in western Colorado and the entire 3rd District an explanation of why his staff pay is so high. The official 'no comment' from his office doesn't cut it." [[Editorial, Daily Sentinel, 6/7/11](#)]

## **Used the Same Tele-Town Hall Service as John Salazar, Whom Tipton Defeated**

In an April 2011 interview on The Cari and Rob Show, when asked "Did you know at that time that their licensees did work with more than 100 congressional offices on the hill?" Tipton responded "No, I had no idea. They've been in business for a long time so..." In a follow up, Tipton was asked "When did you start using one of their licensees? When did you first speak to their licensee..." Tipton was asked, "Actually, we took up using the same vendor that John Salazar used and we've had one town hall meeting...I think one town hall meeting." [[The Cari and Rob Show, 5/31/11](#)]

## Campaign Endorsements / Financial Support

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Endorsed by Tom Tancredo*
- ✓ *Minuteman President Chris Simcox campaigned for Tipton*
- ✓ *Held a fundraiser with Sarah Palin and Karl Rove*
- ✓ *Right wing third party groups aired ads for Tipton*
- ✓ *Held a fundraiser and campaigned with Dick Morris*
- ✓ *Endorsed by Dick Armey*

**In 2006, Tipton was endorsed by Tom Tancredo and Chris Simcox, both of whom advocated for strict immigration reform. In 2010, Tipton held fundraisers with Sarah Palin and George Bush Adviser, Karl Rove. Additionally, Tipton was endorsed by Dick Armey, chair of FreedomWorks. Can you add here how much outside support Tipton got? Through public database, WaPo or Opensecrets.org**

### **Held a Fundraiser Dinner with Sarah Palin and Karl Rove**

In 2010, Scott Tipton held a fundraiser with Karl Rove and Sarah Palin in Aspen, CO. [ColoradoPols.com, 9/23/10]

Tickets to the reception on the Aspen Institute campus started at \$75 and cost as much as \$7,200. [Associated Press, 9/23/10]

### **Endorsed by Rightroots and ABCPac**

In 2006, Tipton was endorsed by Rightroots, which was a online fundraising campaign formed by seven Republican Web bloggers. Rightroots endorsed 18 candidates in 2006, all of which were either challenging Democratic incumbents or running for open seats.

Rightroots consisted of John Hawkins from Right Wing News, Robert Bluey from Human Events Online, Mary Katherine Ham from Town hall, Erick Erickson from Redstate, Patrick Hynes from Ankle Biting Pundits, and Lorie Byrd from Wizbang. [Technology Daily, 8/01/06]

### **Karl Rove Held a Book-Signing with Proceeds Going to Tipton**

In 2010, Karl Rove held an event to benefits Colorado's Republican Congressional candidates.

Donors paid \$7,200 to listen to Republican Karl Rove in Aspen and receive an autographed copy of his new book. President George H. W. Bush's second cousin, Walker Stapleton, a GOP candidate for state treasurer, co-hosted the event. Proceeds went to Tipton, Colorado 4th Congressional District candidate Cory Gardner and Colorado 7th Congressional District candidate Ryan Frazier. Cheaper tickets sold for as little as \$75. [[Colorado Independent](#), 10/21/10]

### **Americans for Prosperity Campaigned for Tipton**

In 2010, Americans for Prosperity recruited “activists” to walk precincts, make calls and spread the group’s message about John Salazar’s voting record.

The group was singled out in 2010 by President Barack Obama as one of several supported by big business to push a conservative agenda. Jeff Crank, state director of Americans for Prosperity played a clip of the president’s speech. He said, however that each state chapter is locally funded by donations from supporters and all the chapter’s money is spent in the state.

Crank said that the group had 1,800 activists in the Pueblo area.

He cautioned the group, though, that when speaking as AFP activists they should not ask people to vote for the Republican candidate, for legal reasons. “We’re not trying to tell people to vote for or against a certain candidate,” he said, “Tell people how John Salazar voted on those issues.”

“It is illegal for us to coordinate stuff with another campaign. I know Scott Tipton but I don’t talk to him. If you work for him, that’s a contribution from you to him.” Referring to a call system AFP operates, he added, “If you use this system it’s a contribution from AFP.” [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/19/10]

### **Americans for Prosperity Brought “Joe the Plumber” to Campaign Against Salazar**

In 2010, Americans for Prosperity brought “Joe the Plumber,” named such for his encounter with President Obama during the 2008 presidential election, to Colorado to campaign against Salazar. Tipton spoke in front of approximately 75 Tea Party members in Pueblo.

Joe spent his time in Colorado attacking both political parties saying he did not like politicos. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/20/10]

### **Endorsed by Dick Armey, Co-Chairman of FreedomWorks**

In 2010, Tipton was endorsed by Dick Armey, co-chairman of FreedomWorks. [[Fort Collins Coloradoan](#), 10/12/10]

### **Armey Called for the Elimination of Federal Aid for College Students**

In 2010, Armey, who endorsed Tipton, called for elimination of federal aid for college students. [[Fort Collins Coloradoan](#), 10/12/10]

### **FreedomWorks Chairman Wants to Abolish Social Security**

On Social Security, Armey said, “I think we’re going to have to bite the bullet on Social Security and phase it out over a period of time.” [Fort Worth Star-Telegram, 3/09/02]

### **FreedomWorks Chairman Armey Wants to Abolish Medicare**

FreedomWorks Chairman Dick Armey has called for the abolition of Medicare, saying, Medicare is “a program I would have no part of in a free world.” [Chicago Tribune, 7/11/95]

### **FreedomWorks Chairman Supported Flat Tax**

Armey wants to reform Social Security by introducing “a flat-tax plan to replace the current federal tax code.” [AP, 11/20/03]

### **Minuteman President Chris Simcox Campaigned for Tipton**

In 2006, Chris Simcox, President of the Minuteman Civil Defense Corps Project, went on a nine-day barnstorming tour in Colorado campaigning for U.S. Senate and House candidates “who stand for strong borders”, and opposed President Bush’s guest-worker program. The organization’s mission statement was to “ see the borders and coastal boundaries of the United States secured against the unlawful and unauthorized entry of all individuals, contraband, and foreign military. We will employ all means of civil protest, demonstration, and political lobbying to accomplish this goal.”

Simcox campaigned with Tipton because of his tough stance on immigration. [[Washington Times](#), 10/30/06]

### **Americans for Job Security Aired Ads Targeting Salazar**

In 2010, Americans for Job Security aired ads targeting John Salazar’s record as a Congressman. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/07/10]

### **Americans for Jobs Security’s Third Most Costly IE was Against Salazar**

In 2010, Americans for Job Security spent the third most of all its independent expenditure campaigns in ads against Salazar. Americans for Jobs Security spent \$498,438 on ads against Salazar. [[opensecrets.org](#), accessed 4/22/11]

### **Investigated by the IRS for Violating Tax Status**

In 2010, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus asked the IRS to investigate whether Americans for Job Security, social welfare organizations registered under section 501(c)4 of the tax code, violated their tax status by underwriting TV ad buys. [[Politico](#), 10/5/10]

### **Held Event with Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele**

In 2010, RNC Chairman Michael Steele held an even with Scott Tipton in Pueblo. Steele was voted out as RNC Chairman 2011. [The Associated Press, 9/30/10, [\[Pueblo Chieftain, 10/2/10\]](#)

## **Tom Tancredo Endorsed and Campaigned for Tipton**

In 2006, Tom Tancredo, Congressman from Colorado's 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional district, endorsed Tipton and criticized Salazar for his stance on immigration. Tancredo said that Salazar had been "AWOL" on the national issue of immigration reform.

"What you see with my colleague, John, is a record of someone happy with the status quo when it comes to border security and immigration enforcement," Tancredo said. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/11/06]

## **Endorsed By Ben Nighthorse Campbell**

In August 2008, Tipton was endorsed by former Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell in his bid for Colorado State House of Representatives. [[Montrose Daily Press](#), 8/14/08]

## **Endorsed John McCain in 2008 Presidential Election**

In 2008, Tipton expressed his support for John McCain during a rally in Durango.

"We must have a president that knows how to lead and can lead. That's John McCain." [[Cortez Journal](#), 10/24/08]

## **Martin Beeson Suspended Campaign and Supported Tipton**

In 2010, Martin Beeson, who was pursuing Colorado's third congressional seat, suspended his campaign and backed Scott Tipton for the seat. [The Associated Press, 1/1/10]

## **Received Endorsements from Local and National Republican Leaders**

In 2010, while not winning the endorsement of Sarah Palin, Tipton was endorsed by Western Slope Conservative Alliance, a coalition of Tea Party activist groups. He also has nods from two former GOP senators from Colorado: Hank Brown and Bill Armstrong. Fox News consultant Dick Morris also endorsed Tipton. [[Denver Post](#), 8/05/10]

## **Dick Morris Fundraised for Tipton**

In 2010, Tipton hosted former President Bill Clinton aide turned conservative commentator Dick Morris at a Grand Junction-area fundraiser.

The Colorado Democratic Party blasted the appearance, noting both Morris' alleged sex scandal that forced him to leave the White House and a \$1.5 million lien levied against him for his failure to pay taxes. [[Colorado Independent](#), 8/18/10]

## **2010: Received Endorsement from Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce**

In 2010, Tipton was endorsed by the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce.

“As a small businessman, I am honored to receive the endorsement of an organization as important to the interests of business as the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce,” said Tipton. [Press Release Colorado Republican Party, 9/21/10]

### **Commission for Hope, Growth and Opportunity Aired Ads Targeting Salazar**

In 2010, the Commission for Hope, Growth and Opportunity aired ads targeting John Salazar’s record as a Congressman. The organization reportedly included health insurance companies and financial institutions among its contributors. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/07/10]

### **DCCC Filed FEC Complaint Against CHGO for Failing to Filed Disclosure Reports**

In 2010, The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission over the fact that the Commission for Hope, Growth, and Opportunity failed to file any disclosure reports required under federal election law. In the 2010 election, CHGO paid nearly \$1 million for TV ads attacking Democratic incumbents. [[Politico](#), 10/5/10]

### **Endorsed by Gun Owners of America**

In 2010, Tipton was endorsed by the Gun Owners of America organization. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/29/10]

## Campaign Promises

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Promised to forgo pay raises*
- ✓ *Promised loyalty to Tea Party questionnaire over political party*
- ✓ *Promised never to privatize Social Security*
- ✓ *Signed a no earmarks pledge*
- ✓ *Opposed to term limits*

**In 2010, Tipton promised seniors that he would not privatize their Social Security or Medicare benefits. Additionally, in 2010 Tipton said in a Tea Party Questionnaire that he would vote according to how he answered in the Tea party Questionnaire regardless of party. Tipton signed a pledge in opposition of earmarks. He is also opposed to term limits.**

### Ran Campaign Ad Promising Never to Privatize Senior Benefits

In his 2010 campaign, Tipton promised never to privatize Social Security or Medicare.

“I’ll never put our seniors’ future at risk. No cuts, no privatization, and no scaring our seniors just to try and win this election.” [[American Spectator](#), 10/15/10]

### Signed the Americans for Tax Reform Pledge

In 2010, Scott Tipton signed the Americans for Tax Reform campaign pledge. The pledge required members of congress to oppose any effort to increase the marginal income tax rate on individuals or businesses. It also required members to oppose any net reduction or elimination of tax credits. [Americans for Tax Reform, 112<sup>th</sup> Congress Pledge Signers, accessed 7/11/11]

### 2010: Promised to Vote the Way He Answered a Tea Party Questionnaire Regardless of Party

In 2010, Tipton, on a Tea Party Questionnaire form, answered “Yes” to the question “If elected, will you vote the way you have answered these questions, regardless of your party’s position?” The question was part of the Southern Colorado Patriots Club Questionnaire. [ColoradoPols.com, 9/17/10]

### 2006: “I Will Be Nobody’s Rubber Stamp”

In 2006, in an attempt to tout his independent minded approach to being a Congressman, Tipton said that “No one and nobody owns me...I will be nobody's rubber stamp.” [[Denver Post](#), 10/04/06]

### **Did Not Believe in Term Limits**

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered “no” when asked if he believed in term limits. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Signed a “No Earmarks” Pledge**

In 2010, Tipton signed a pledge to ban earmarks. [[Denver Post](#), 11/16/10]

### **Pledged To Forgo Congressional Pay Raises and Pensions**

In 2006, Tipton said that if elected he would “forgo any pay raises as well as the pension plan afforded members of Congress.” [[Frontrunner](#), 9/06/06]

### **Tipton: I Would Challenge Anyone Who Will Demonize Others for Their Intent**

In February 2011, during remarks made on the House floor, Tipton said that nearly all government programs have good intentions behind them and as a result, you should not “demonize” others on account of their intention.

“We’ve seen the government—and I think none of us can question the intent has always been good. And I would challenge anyone who will demonize others for their intent, because I think no matter whatever program, there was a thought behind it. But the problem is, as Americans, when we pull that checkbook out of our hip pocket, we know there’s only so much money.” [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Tipton Made a Pledge during His Campaign to Protect Seniors**

In 2011, Tipton defended his vote on the 2012 Republican budget to privatize Medicare. He said he made a pledge during his campaign to “protect our senior citizens.”

“We need to deal with facts, not fear,” he said. “I think it’s unfortunate that our opponents are putting out the fear card.” [[Denver Post](#), [5/27/11](#)]

## Abortion Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Criticized by Christian Right to Life for abortion stance*
- ✓ *Opposed to abortion except in cases of rape, incest, and the life of the mother*
- ✓ *Encouraged by local officials to fund Planned Parenthood*

**Tipton identifies as a “pro-life” candidate, but is not considered so by some pro-life organizations who are critical of his willingness to accept abortion in the case of rape and incest.**

### **Criticized By Christian Right to Life**

In 2010, Tipton was criticized by Christian Right to Life (CRTL) Vice President Leslie Hanks for not responding to their candidate survey. Christian Right To Life issued the following statement on Tipton's Campaign:

“We're also greatly concerned about the 3rd Congressional District, where both candidates ‘say’ they're pro-life, but only one candidate -- Bob McConnell -- responded to CRTL's candidate survey. Only one candidate went on record as supporting the Personhood Amendment. And only one candidate seems at all serious about defending the life of the unborn child.”

“Scott Tipton may think abortion is just an election issue,” said Leslie Hanks, VP of CRTL and co-sponsor of Amendment 62, “but it's not. It's a heart issue, and it's a matter of life and death, and we're glad one candidate understands that.” [Christian Newswire, 8/06/10]

### **Colorado Right to Life: “Scott Tipton is NOT PRO LIFE and Is Lying to Get Your Vote”**

In 2010, Scott Tipton was criticized by Colorado Right to Life for not going on record as being pro-life. Later in 2010, Colorado Right to Life blasted Tipton for his support of abortion in instances of rape and incest, accusing him of “lying in order to get your vote.” Colorado Right to Life went on to endorse John Hargis in the third district congressional race. [Colorado Right to Life Blog, 10/2/10]

### Congressional District 3

Democrat John Salazar is pro-abortion.

Republican *Scott Tipton* won't go on record, and tells people he is pro-life but is NOT considered by us to be honestly pro-life. Scott Tipton has avoided responding to CRTL surveys for 3 years, has lied to us and others about having responded, regularly tells voters he's pro-life and that he's responded to our questionnaire, and his website says he is pro-life but he approves of abortion in cases of rape or incest. **Scott Tipton is NOT PRO LIFE and is lying in order to get your vote!**

Write-In candidate **John Hargis is 100% Pro-Life**, and has responded to CRTL's survey. If you want to cast a write-in vote, the Secretary of State's website says a voter must write the candidate's name (John W. Hargis Sr.) in the space reserved on the ballot for write-in votes, and properly marks the oval OR connects the arrow on optical scan ballots according to the directions provided to the voter. If you want to find out more about John Hargis, his website is [here](#) (CRTL does not endorse candidates, but since he is a write-in candidate not connected to a major party, it seems reasonable to show you where to find him).

[Colorado Right to Life Blog, 10/2/10]

### Opposed Abortion Except in Instances of Rape, Incest or Life of Mother

In 2010, Tipton said that he believed abortion should be limited to instances of rape, incest or threat to the life of the mother. [Congressional Quarterly, 11/03/10]

### Did Not Believe in Abortion

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered "no" when asked if he believed in abortion. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

### Only Colorado Republican Not to Cosponsor Anti-Abortion Bill

In March 2011, Tipton was the only Republican from the Colorado congressional delegation not to cosponsor House Resolution 3, which was the "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act." The legislation would require the IRS to track how women spend their health care tax benefits in order to make sure none of the money was used to pay for an abortion. [[Colorado Independent](#), 3/23/11]

### Local County Commissioners Wrote to Tipton in Support of Planned Parenthood

In March 2011, Pitkin County Commissioners wrote a letter to Tipton in support of not cutting funding Planned Parenthood.

Commissioner Rachel Richards went on to say that organization was "under assault," arguing that people need to speak up in support of the organization. The county commissioners decided not to criticize Tipton specifically for his vote to defund the organization. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 3/24/11]

### **Had Yet to Articulate for the Record His Stance on “Personhood”**

In 2012, the Colorado Independent reported that Tipton had yet to articulate for the record his stance on “personhood,” the hard-line anti-abortion proposition. Colorado Right to Life reportedly flagged Tipton as untrustworthy on the issue. “[Tipton] has lied to us and others about having responded... His website says he is pro-life but he approves of abortion in cases of rape or incest. Scott Tipton is NOT PRO LIFE and is lying in order to get your vote!” [Colorado Independent, [1/12/12](#)]

### **Pitkin County Commissioners Decided to Write Letter to Tipton in Support of Planned Parenthood**

In March 2011, the Pitkin County commissioners decided to send a letter expressing their support for public funding for Planned Parenthood. The commissioners decided to tone down criticism of Tipton’s vote to cut federal funding for the organization. [[Aspen Daily News, 3/24/11](#)]

### **Pitkin County Board Wrote Letter Advocating for Transit Money and in Opposition to Tipton’s Planned Parenthood Vote**

The Pitkin County Board drafted several letters 2011 criticizing Tipton’s spending priorities. He was asked to support a \$24 million grant to fund a bus rapid transit (BRT) system for the valley. He was also criticized for advocating for cutting federal funding to Planned Parenthood.

The board decided to send the letter on the bus rapid transit system, but hold off on criticizing Tipton for his Planned Parenthood vote. [[Aspen Daily News, 3/9/11](#)]

### **Pike County Commissioners Angered at Tipton’s Vote Against Planned Parenthood**

Pike County Commissioners said they may write a letter to Tipton expressing their opposition to the amendment he voted in favor of that eliminated funding for Planned Parenthood. [[Aspen Times, 2/28/11](#)]

### **Reportedly Supported Colorado’s 2010 personhood initiative**

ColoradoPols.com reported that Tipton supported Colorado’s 2010 personhood initiative. [[ColoradoPols.com, 11/28/11](#)]

### **Voted to Prohibit Any Government Funding for Planned Parenthood**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would bar all funding for Planned Parenthood Federation of America or its affiliates.

Conservatives had long targeted Planned Parenthood as a major abortion provider but the amendment would bar all federal funding. Planned Parenthood received some \$75 million received to provide family planning assistance, contraception, HIV counseling, cancer screenings and other medical services.

According to Susan Cohen, director of governmental affairs at the Guttmacher Institute research organization, for every dollar spent on contraception for low-income women, the government saves four dollars in medical costs within the next year by averting unwanted pregnancies. [[New York Times, 2/17/11](#)]

A [New York Times](#) editorial pointed out that Republicans' assault on women's health would deny millions of women access to affordable contraception and life-saving cancer screening, as well as cut nutritional support for millions of newborn babies. [[New York Times](#), Editorial, 2/25/11]

The amendment passed, 240-185. [HR 1, Pence amendment #11, [Vote #93](#), 2/18/11]

### **Voted to Restrict the District of Columbia from Using Funds to Pay for Abortions**

In 2011, Tipton voted to restrict the District of Columbia from using their funds to pay for abortions.

The bill also contained a policy rider which would have restricted the District of Columbia from using funds appropriated by the bill or its own tax dollars to pay for abortions with exceptions for the life of the mother and if the pregnancy was the result of rape or incest. When the Senate amended the bill it struck most of the language and made it a simple Continuing Resolution which funded all government agencies through April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 with some reductions to FY10 funding levels. [CQ Weekly Report, [4/11/11](#)]

The bill underlying bill would have provided funds for the Department of Defense through the end of Fiscal Year 2011 and all other government agencies through April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011, while cutting an additional \$12 billion.

The bill passed 247-181. [HR 1363, [Vote #247](#), 4/07/11]

### **Voted to Defund Planned Parenthood**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which would insert a section in the FY11 Continuing Resolution which would prohibit Planned Parenthood and its affiliates from receiving federal funding.

The resolution would order the Clerk of the House to change H.R. 1473, the FY11 Continuing Resolution, to bar the use of the federal funds to go to Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc., or any affiliate. [[The Hill](#), [4/12/11](#)]

The bill passed 241-185. [H Con Res 36, [Vote #271](#), 4/14/11]

### **Voted to Undermine a Woman's Right to Choose**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which undermined and harmed women's health by limiting access and funding for abortions.

The bill dramatically changed the laws regarding abortion access and funding. The legislation made the annually-passed Hyde Amendment (barring the use of federal funds for abortion) permanent, prohibited federal medical facilities from providing abortion services, and kept individuals from "deducting abortion as a medical expense unless it was the result of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother".

The section on deducting abortion expenses led many to worry about "abortion audits" where the IRS would be charged with determining if a woman who became pregnant and used tax-exempt funds (health savings accounts or deducted the costs) to terminate the pregnancy met the specifications of the

pregnancy being the result of rape or incest or if pregnancy risked the life of the mother. [[The American Independent, 5/04/11](#); [The Hill, 5/04/11](#); [Mother Jones, 3/18/11](#)]

The bill passed 251-175. [HR 3, [Vote #292](#), 5/04/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which specified that nothing in the bill allowed the federal government to access medical records of rape and incest victims.

The motion failed 192-235. [HR 3, [Vote #291](#), 5/04/11]

### **Voted to Limit Doctors' Education on Providing Abortions**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment which cut funding for educating doctors in how to provide abortions, which are sometimes necessary to protect the life and health of the mother.

The amendment banned the use of funds authorized by the underlying bill to teach medical students how to provide abortions. The amendment also banned the distribution of funds to educational health facilities which discriminate against entities that refuse to provide or pay for abortions.

According to the AP: "The proposal was presented as an amendment to the latest of several GOP bills to restrict funding for the health care act that was enacted last year. This bill gives Congress control over spending for a program to encourage health centers to provide training to medical residents. The amendment applies to funding in that grant program." [[Associated Press, 5/25/11](#); [The Hill, 5/24/11](#)]

The amendment passed 234-182. [HR 1216, [Vote #338](#), 5/25/11]

### **Voted to Restrict Women's Reproductive Health Care**

In 2011, Tipton voted to allow hospitals to deny lifesaving health care to women and restrict a woman's ability to use her own private insurance for health care.

The bill barred insurance plans that receive federal subsidies, or if any of its customers receive federal subsidies under the new healthcare law, from covering abortion. The bill also increased conscience protections for health care providers who are anti-abortion.

According to the Huffington Post, the bill "would allow federally-funded hospitals that oppose abortions to refuse to perform the procedure, even in cases where a woman would die without it." [[The Virginian-Pilot, 10/14/11](#); [Orlando Sentinel, 10/14/11](#); [Huffington Post, 10/11/11](#)]

The bill passed 251-172. [HR 358, [Vote #789](#), 10/13/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion specifying that, under the underlying bill, health care providers were still required to provide care to prevent the death of pregnant women with emergency medical conditions. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/13/11]

The motion failed 173-249. [HR 358, [Vote #788](#), 10/13/11]

## Agricultural Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Served on bank board that had history of adverse policies to agriculture industry*
- ✓ *Said agriculture was the backbone of his district*
- ✓ *Considered cutting agriculture subsides*
- ✓ *Chairman of the Small Business Committee's Agriculture, Energy and Trade Subcommittee*

**Vectra Bank, on whose bank board Tipton served, came under fire in 2000 for having adverse policies toward rural Coloradoans and farm communities. However, Tipton went on record in 2010 saying that agriculture is the backbone of his district. In 2011, Tipton served as the Chairman of the Agriculture, Energy, and Trade subcommittee under the Small Business Committee. However, since joining Congress, he has gone on record as saying federal subsides for agriculture were on the table when considering where to cut the federal budget.**

### **Vectra Bank, on Whose Board Tipton Served, Foreclosed on Farmers, Charging “Exorbitant Fees”**

In 2000, The Denver Post reported on Everett and Belinda Kissler and their ranch foreclosure by Vectra Bank Colorado. The Kisslers claimed that they were charged high interest rates and subsequently forced from their farm because of Vectra’s policies. Scott Tipton served on the board of Vectra Bank Colorado from 1998 to 2005. [Denver Post, 3/12/00; Denver Post, 11/09/98; Pueblo Chieftain, 10/2/10]

#### **Vectra Bank Charged 800 Percent Interest on Farm Loans**

In 2000, Vectra Bank foreclosed on Everett Kissler’s farm and made all of the loans due and payable, charging the Kisslers \$1,000 a day on each loan for the value of use of said property.

A financial statement given to Vectra Bank placed Kissler’s property and equipment value at \$1.6 million.

With six loans, Kissler was charged \$6,000 per day, which amounted to 800 percent interest, for a total of \$341,000. [Denver Post, 3/12/00]

**... Forced Farmer into Bankruptcy**

In 2000, because of Vectra Banks excessive interest rates, Everett Kissler was forced to file Chapter 12 bankruptcy. [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **...Lawyer Called Vectra Bank Fees Unprecedented**

In 2000, Ken Copple, an attorney who specialized in agricultural bankruptcy cases and represented the Kissler family, said the penalty was unprecedented in his 15 years of experience.

Copple said he was unaware of a legal right the bank had to impose “an excessive, exorbitant penalty.” [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **Vectra Bank Denied Charging Such Rates**

Michael Meganck, regional president for Vectra Bank in northern Colorado contested Kissler’s claims.

“It’s my understanding it is \$1,000 per day on all six loans which are in default, and not \$1,000 on each loan,” Meganck said. “There is a state statute that allows banks to charge a rent on equipment that is in repossession as long as a loan is in default.”

According to Meganck, the charge was comparable to the rental cost of the equipment. [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **...Vectra’s Intent Questioned**

Norm Dalsted, an agriculture and resource economist at Colorado State University said Vectra’s actions could be an attempt to divest itself of agriculture loans.

Kissler claims to have been with Vectra for 15 years without incident “until Vectra bought the former Independent Banks about two years ago,” according to [The Denver Post](#).

Copple suggested the acquisition could be to blame for the high interest loans.

“All these banks used to be independent country banks that understand the ups and downs of agriculture,” Copple said. “These big banking corporations don’t have that same kind of understanding.” [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

### **Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture: “You Could Get a Better Deal from the Mafia”**

Don Ament, Colorado commissioner of agriculture, said his department was monitoring the situation with the aim of alleviating foreclosures in the farm community.

“I don’t understand what Vectra is trying to do here,” Ament said. “You could get a better deal from the Mafia.” [[Denver Post](#), 3/12/00]

## **Vectra Bank of Colorado Closed Rural Banks in Colorado**

In July 2003, Vectra Bank decided to close 10 of its rural branches in Colorado. David Manley, regional president of Vectra Bank, attributed the bank closings to “the lack of employee agricultural lending expertise.” [Northern Colorado Business Report, 8/08/03]

### **Agriculture Is the “Backbone” of District**

In 2010, Tipton said that agriculture is the “backbone” of the district, adding that it is important to protect the water supply from “downstream threats, and from in-state water grabs.” [CQ Roll Call, New Member Guide, 11/4/10]

### **Tipton: “We’ll Be Looking at All Subsidies”**

In 2011, while discussing agriculture reform and areas in which to make cuts to the budget, Tipton said that “all subsidies” were being considered for cuts. [Durango Herald, 4/07/11]

### **Received Over \$12,000 at Fundraiser for Being a Freshman Agricultural Republican Member**

On March 30, 2011, Tipton received \$12,787.13 from a Freshman Agricultural Republican Member fundraiser with Speaker Boehner. [Sunlight Foundation, [3/14/11](#); VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

### **Served as Small Business Subcommittee Chair on Agriculture, Energy and Trade**

In 2011, Scott Tipton was appointed Chairman for the Small Business Committee’s Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade.

“I’m honored to serve on the Small Business Committee and as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade, which has oversight over programs that are important to Colorado’ third district. I’m focused on cutting spending, curbing overregulation, and keeping taxes low so that small businesses can do what they do best – create jobs and get people back to work.” [House Small Business Committee Press Release, 1/31/11]

## Voted for Massive Cuts to the Department of Agriculture

In 2011, Tipton voted to cut the budget of the Department of Agriculture and programs funded through the USDA including food safety and nutrition programs.

The bill cut more than \$2.7 billion out of the discretionary budget of the Department of Agriculture, including \$832 million from the Women, Infants & Children Nutrition (WIC) Program. The FDA's food safety program was cut by \$87 million compared to what it was receiving in Fiscal Year 2011 or \$205 million less than the President's request. In addition, another \$35 million was cut from the USDA's food safety and inspection service.

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which is supposed to stabilize commodity prices by regulating commodity speculation, was also cut by \$30 million. [[The Hill, 6/16/11](#); [Washington Post, 6/17/11](#)]

The bill passed 217-203. [HR 2112, [Vote #459](#), 6/16/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion to increase funding for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission with that funding going to regulate excessive speculation.

The motion failed 185-233. [HR 2112, [Vote #458](#), 6/16/11]

## Alcohol and Drug Abuse Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Voted for cuts to substance abuse programs*
- ✓ *Voted against rural drug prevention programs*

**Scott Tipton voted against programs that would prevent rural drug and alcohol abuse. In 2010, Tipton voted for cuts to substance abuse programs.**

## Voted to Cut Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services by \$98 Million

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would increase funding for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs (LIHEAP) by \$50 million. The amendment would reduce funding for substance abuse and mental health services at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration by \$98 million.

The amendment was rejected, 104-322. [HR 1, Bass amendment #565, [Vote #71](#), 2/17/11]

## Opposed Rural Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program

In 2009, Tipton voted against creating the Rural Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program to provide services to children and adults in rural areas.

The programs were funded by new penalty surcharges on convictions of driving while under the influence, impaired, or underage. [HB09-1119 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/09/09]

The bill passed the House with Senate amendments, 43-22. [HB09-1119, House Journal page 1743, 5/04/09]

## Budget Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Voted for a budget that would cut billions in job training programs*
- ✓ *Voted for a budget that would cut millions of dollars in pell grants*
- ✓ *Sponsored legislation to increase the pay for local government officials*
- ✓ *Opposed President Obama's 2012 budget proposal*
- ✓ *Frustration with Speaker Boehner after budget deal*
- ✓ *Said Obama budget shows he has “never worked in the private sector”*
- ✓ *Voted for a budget that would cut a billion dollars from Head Start programs*
- ✓ *Voted against measures to establish a balanced budget*
- ✓ *Joined the Balanced Budget Amendment Caucus*
- ✓ *Voted for a budget that would cut billions in cancer and diabetes research*

Tipton voted against measures that would balance Colorado's 2009 state budget. The same year, he voted for pay raises for all of Montezuma County's public officials. However, in 2011, Tipton joined the Balance Budget Amendment Caucus. Tipton voted for billions in cuts to the 2011 budget that would cut education grants, job training programs, health research, and homeland security agencies. While Tipton was calling for increased budget cuts in 2011, he also wanted increased funding in his district to combat bark beetles, build bicycle trails, and help local fire fighters get a new fire truck.

### **Voted for \$61 Billion in Budget Cuts**

In 2011, Tipton voted for \$61 billion in cuts that were part of a Republican proposed continuing resolution to fund the government through fiscal year 2011. [HR 1, [Vote #147](#), 2/19/11]

### **Goldman Sachs Predicted Budget Cuts Will Hurt Economy**

An analysis by the investment bank Goldman Sachs predicted that the Republican spending cuts would cause great damage to the economy, slowing growth by as much as two percentage points in the second and third quarters of 2011. [[Washington Post, 3/13/11](#)]

#### **... Pell Grants for College Students**

In 2011, Tipton voted for budget cuts that would reduce the maximum amount of money received in pell grants by \$845. [Democratic Leader press release, accessed [6/29/11](#)]

#### **...Head Start Programs for Young Children**

In 2011, Tipton voted for budget cuts that would cut head start funding by \$1 billion. This would result in 218,000 students being dropped from head start programs and 55,000 teachers laid off. [Democratic Leader press release, accessed [6/29/11](#)]

#### **...Education Funding for K- 12 Students**

In 2011, Tipton voted for budget cuts that would reduce funding by \$700 million to disadvantage students who need help in reading and math. [Democratic Leader press release, accessed [6/29/11](#)]

#### **...Job Training Programs**

In 2011, Tipton voted for budget cuts that would reduce job-training program funding to states by \$3.6 billion. [Democratic Leader press release, accessed [6/29/11](#)]

#### **...Cancer, Diabetes, and Alzheimer Research**

In 2011, Tipton voted for budget cuts that would reduce funding for the National Institute of Health by \$1.6 billion. These cuts would in decreased research funding in the areas of cancer, diabetes, and Alzheimer's research. [Democratic Leader press release, accessed [6/29/11](#)]

#### **...Homeland Security**

In 2011, Tipton voted for budget cuts that would reduce funding for FEMA and border security cutting billions from programs that are designed to protect America's ports, borders, and transit system. [Democratic Leader press release, accessed [6/29/11](#)]

### **Discussed Republican Budget Several Times with Paul Ryan Before Plan Was Released**

In 2011, Tipton said that he had met with Paul Ryan “a number of times” to discuss the 2012 Paul Ryan budget plan.

“I have had a visit with Paul Ryan a number of times on this to really try and understand how the process works. The continuing resolution effectively deals with the past. The debt ceiling will deal with the present and where we are going to be have our greatest impact and to be able to address –and in my mind – to start to get us to the right path in this country is when ultimately get to the budget...” [G. Gordon Liddy radio show, 4:35, [3/23/11](#)]

### **Said He Liked Ryan Plan, but Not Necessarily the Particulars**

In April 2011, Tipton said he liked the Ryan plan, but not necessarily the particulars. “I like that it would simplify the tax code and several economists have already said it would create millions of new jobs,” Tipton said. “When you look at the unemployment rate in Pueblo County and around the Third District, we have to be in the business of creating jobs.” [[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/09/11](#)]

### **Paul Ryan’s Budget Plan “Wasn’t Perfect”**

In 2011, during a tele-town hall with constituent from Colorado’s third Congressional district, Tipton said while discussing the Paul Ryan budget plans that “I haven’t seen the perfect plan yet.” [[Durango Herald, 4/07/11](#)]

### **Supported the Ryan Budget “Conceptually”**

In 2011, Tipton said that he was going to support the Ryan Budget “conceptually,” even though the budget plan “need(ed) a lot of edits.”

“I’m going to support the Ryan plan conceptually at least, it needs a lot of work and a lot of blanks to fill in but I think he may be able to pull off some votes today and this may not pass.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

### **Colorado Center on Law and Policy: Ryan Budget “Would Harm Thousands”**

In April 2011, The Colorado Center on Law and Policy said that the 2012 Republican budget plan “would harm thousands and thousands of families.”

Below are the effects of the Ryan Budget on Colorado families, according to the Colorado Center on Law and Policy:

- 1,388 young children would not be able to receive Head Start services and 155 Head Start jobs would be lost;
- 11,653 poor children will lose or have reduced extra academic support and 100 jobs providing that support would be lost;
- 1,687 children would lose or have reduced after-school programs, and 14 after-school jobs would be lost;
- 47,731 patients would lose health care they would have received at Community Health Centers over the next year; one health center site would have to close and 91 jobs would be lost;
- 149,000 low-income Colorado college students would lose some or all of their Pell Grants;
- 14,418 low income Colorado college students would lose some or all of their Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants;
- Poor households in federal public housing (two-thirds of which are elderly or have a disability) would see maintenance and repairs on their apartments deteriorate due to a \$6.6 cut in Colorado’s Public Housing Capital Fund;

- Colorado will lose \$25.7 million that it could have used for a wide range of community development projects;
- The majority of the approximately 365 households of people with significant and long-term disabilities in Colorado receiving rental assistance will lose their vouchers and are at risk of losing their home because of the 70 percent cut to the Section 811 housing voucher program. [The Colorado Center on Law and Policy, [3/03/11](#)]

### **Said States Should Be Allowed to Declare Bankruptcy**

Tipton said he was in support of allowing states declaring bankruptcy to get out of debt.

“Yes, I’m in support of that,” Tipton said. “Colorado is OK because their budget has to be balanced. But someplace like California, I don’t know how else they can get out from under where they are.” [[Valley Courier](#), 2/1/11]

### **Voted for Ryan’s Budget Plan**

In 2011, Tipton voted to support the Ryan budget, which would turn Medicare into a voucher program and reduce the corporate and personal tax rate to 25 percent, down from 35 percent. [H Con. Res. 34, [Vote #277](#), 4/15/11]

#### **Former McCain Economic Advisor: 1.7 Million few Jobs Under Ryan Plan**

According to Mark Zandi of Moody's, a former economist for the McCain 2008 Presidential Campaign, the Ryan approach would result in 1.7 million fewer jobs, including 900,000 next year, than is the case under the president's proposal. [Moody's Analytics, 4/14/11]

#### **Seniors Will Pay More Under Ryan Budget Plan**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget, which would require seniors to pay more for healthcare.

“The House Republican plan for overhauling Medicare would fundamentally change how the federal government pays for health care, starting a decade from now, likely resulting in higher out-of-pocket costs and greater limits to coverage for many Americans.” [[Wall Street Journal](#), 4/6/11]

#### **Brings Back the Donut Hole**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget, which would restore the donut hole for prescription drugs in Medicare. [Associated Press, [4/06/11](#)]

“The coverage gap in the Medicare prescription drug benefit would be brought back. Obama’s health care law gradually eliminates the so-called doughnut hole. Ryan’s plan repeals that provision, the budget office analysis said.” [Associated Press, [4/06/11](#)]

#### **AARP: Budget Undermines Vital Programs for Older Americans**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget, which would require seniors to pay more for healthcare.

“Among its provisions, the proposal would drive up costs for people in Medicare, take away needed coverage for long-term care from millions of older and disabled Americans and reduce critical help for seniors facing the threat of hunger.” [AARP press release, [4/7/11](#)]

### **Ends Medicare By Creating a Voucher Program**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget, which would essentially end Medicare by turning it into a voucher program instead of a program that directly pays their bills. [[Wall Street Journal](#), [4/4/11](#)]

### **Would Raise the Debt Limit**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget plan, which would increase the debt limit by eight trillion dollars. [[Roll Call](#), [4/06/11](#)]

### **Frustration with Speaker Boehner after Budget Deal**

In 2011, Tipton appeared on the “Cari and Rob Show” and indicated that he had lost trust in Speaker Boehner over a lack of adequate reductions to the budget

“There’s going to be a lot of frustration... because the one thing that you have that you value to the best of your ability is, what you’re saying is the truth. And I think the moving shell game, and it’s the problem I have with the CR [temporary budget extension supported by Tipton] is originally, and you kind of ran through the numbers Rob, \$38 billion, well, not really. Then it was taken down to about 20. Now we’re all the way down to \$352 million, according to the CBO. I think there needs to be some questions answered.”

### **Trust in Speaker Boehner was Damaged**

In 2011, Tipton said that Speaker Boehner’s following short in budget cuts had lead to a lack of trust in his leadership.

When asked if his trust in Speaker Boehner had been damaged, Tipton said, “You know, I would say yes, but I will give him the caveat as I always give somebody an opportunity to explain. And I want to hear how we went from \$100 billion down to \$352 million.” [[Huffington Post](#), [4/18/11](#)]

### **Tipton: Obama Budget Shows He Has “Never Worked in the Private Sector”**

In 2011, Tipton criticized President Obama’s budget plan to cut 4 trillion in spending and raise taxes by 1.5 trillion. Tipton went on to say that the President’s plan targets small-business owners who pay corporate taxes by filing as individuals and who might qualify as wealthy under the plan.

“That vividly illustrates that we have a chief executive that’s never worked in the private sector,” he said. “These are people who are creating jobs. He needs to be reminded of that.” [[Durango Herald](#), [4/19/11](#)]

## **Opposed President's 2012 Budget Proposal Saying it would Raise Taxes**

In 2011, Tipton criticized the President for wanting to raise taxes instead of shrink the deficit.

“With double-digit unemployment across our district, I have serious reservations with the president’s plan to raise taxes as a way to shrink the deficit... We must create jobs and grow our revenue base, rather than stunt it with tax increases on job creators.” [\[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/14/11\]](#)

## **President Obama's Budget Plan Puts America on a Path Toward “Imminent Bankruptcy”**

In 2011, Tipton criticized President Obama’s plan for raising taxes and putting America on the path to bankruptcy.

“The president’s budget permanently expands government, leaves health care and retirement programs on the course toward imminent bankruptcy and raises taxes by \$1.5 trillion,” Tipton said in a statement. [\[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/06/11\]](#)

## **Sponsored Legislation to Increase the Pay for Local Government Officials**

In 2009, Tipton introduced House Bill 1203, which would increase the pay of Montezuma county’s Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor, Commissioners, Sheriff, and Coroner.

Tipton was encouraged to introduce the legislation by Sheriff Gerald Wallace, who would receive a \$9,400 per year salary increase from the reclassification.

The total fiscal impact of the legislation proposed by Tipton would be in an increase in spending of \$74,300 per year. [\[Durango Herald, 1/31/09; Durango Herald, 3/06/09; Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note LLS 09-0791, 2/04/2009\]](#)

## **Said He Was Promised That There Would Be No Wage Increases**

In 2010, Tipton was asked about his legislation by [The Daily Sentinel](#). At that time, Tipton said he carried his bill (HB 1203) to allow the county to increase the number of people on its police force. He said that he was assured by local officials that there would not be any wage increases.

“I had the assurances of our county commissioners that they were not going to raise their wages, but this also allowed them to increase the size of, and this was according to them, the size of our local police force by having the different designation. They requested, I responded to the request ... only our rural counties, small towns, even have to deal with this of asking permission. I didn’t like having to carry that piece of legislation, but I responded to the local elected officials doing it, and because I (garbled) exactly what they’re talking about.”

[The Durango Herald](#) and the Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note both identified the wage increases before votes were taken on the legislation. [\[Daily Sentinel, 9/30/10; Durango Herald, 1/31/09; Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note LLS 09-0791, 2/04/2009\]](#)

## **Testified That He Knew There Would be Wage Increases**

In 2009, Tipton, while testifying before the House Local Government Committee, admitted that he knew there would be wage increases.

Representative John Soper, D-Thornton, wanted to know if the county could afford the increase. Tipton's response was that he had asked similar questions, being assured that the pay increases were affordable.

"County commissioners inform me that Montezuma County is in excellent financial shape and can afford the increase," Tipton said. [[Durango Herald, 2/11/09](#)]

### **Uncomfortable with Carrying Wage Increase Bill But Did It Anyways**

In 2009, Tipton said he was uncomfortable carrying the bill because he thinks county commissioners should set salaries on their own county. However, Colorado law gives the power to the state Legislature. [[Durango Herald, 2/11/09](#); [Cortez Journal, 2/11/09](#)]

### **All of Montezuma's County Officials Received their Expected Salary Increases**

In 2011, the Montezuma County budget showed that all of the officials mentioned in the Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note who were expected to receive wage increases did indeed receive a wage increase. [Montezuma County Budget, [accessed 4/22/11](#); Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note LLS 09-0791, 2/04/2009]

### **... Opposed Legislation to Increase the Pay for Local Government Officials**

In 2010, Tipton opposed legislation sponsored by Representative Ed Vigil, which would increase the pay of Mineral County's Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor, Commissioners, Sheriff, and Coroner.

Tipton, who had sponsored identical legislation the year before, spoke out against the legislation saying the recent recession made it a bad time to raise anyone's salary, particularly for elected officials. [[Daily Sentinel, 9/30/10](#)]

### **Took a Trip to Los Angeles Sponsored by the Heritage Foundation**

In January 2011, Scott Tipton and his wife Jean took a trip to Los Angeles sponsored by the Heritage Foundation. The total cost of the trip was \$3,204.

The Heritage Foundation paid for Scott Tipton and his wife to fly from Dulles International Airport to LA and then from LA back to Cortez, CO.

While in California, The Heritage Foundation paid for the Tipton's accommodations at the Four Seasons Hotel, costing \$225 per night.

Scott Tipton and his wife were given \$189/day in meal expenses.

Scott Tipton's description of the event was to hear "educational speakers." [[legistorm.com, accessed 7/6/11](#)]

## **Voted Against Several Measures for a Balanced Budget**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a measure that would transfer over \$224 million to the General Fund from 37 difference cash funds or accounts.

The move was necessary according to the balanced budget package introduced by the Joint Budget Committee for 2008-09. If the bill was not passed, “expenditures will need to be reduced elsewhere in the FY 2008-09 budget,” according to a JBC staff fiscal analysis. [SB09-208, JBC staff fiscal analysis, 2/20/09]

The bill passed as amended in conference, 37-28. [SB09-208, House Journal page 946, 3/30/09]

## **Voted Against Budget Balancing Bill**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a budget-balancing bill making statutory transfers at the end of fiscal year 2008-09 from the limited gaming fund to four cash funds used for a number of programs.

A March 2009 Legislative Council forecast saw insufficient revenue to increase appropriations by the six percent limit for future fiscal years, resulting in unavailable funding for certain programs. [SB09-217 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/04/09]

The House final passage, to adhere its position, passed 49-12. [SB09-217, House Journal page 626, 3/06/09]

## **Voted Against Balanced Budget Item Reducing General Fund Reserve**

In 2009, Tipton voted against part of the budget-balancing package for fiscal year 2008-09, recommended by the Joint Budget Committee. The bill reduced the General Fund reserve from four percent to 2 percent and allowed the governor to tap more funds to cover other expenditures as needed.

The bill would transfer another \$148.2 million from the reserve to the General Fund. [SB09-219 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/30/09; 2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed the House, 40-23. [SB09-219, House Journal page 1532, 4/28/09]

## **...But Joined the Balanced Budget Amendment Caucus**

In 2011, Tipton joined the Balanced Budget Amendment Caucus, a congressional caucus dedicated to amending the U.S. Constitution to require a balanced budget provision. [Coffman Press Release, 3/31/11]

## **Said Federal Spending and Banks were “Broken”**

In February 2011, Tipton said the banks and federal spending were “broken.” He said he would make sure government prioritized spending.

“That is the challenge that we face,” he said. “It is building for the future for those kids and a lot of this is going to be in terms of getting our fiscal house in order, reducing that debt and that deficit in this country.” [Craig Daily Press, 2/23/11]

### **Said Government Needed to Cut Programs and Avoid Redundancies**

In February 2011 floor remarks Tipton advocated for cutting government and avoiding redundancies. He said “One of the real challenges that we face is there seems to be a mentality in Washington, D.C., that once a program starts, it never ends. We will build on it. We will expand it. We will create redundancies, and we will build out that bureaucracy. In the private sector, we do things a little bit differently.

Periodically, we audit. We take a look to see what we are doing and is it achieving the goals that we are trying to achieve. If not, we eliminate it.” [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Said Intent of Programs was Good, but There were Consequences to Overspending**

In February 2011 floor remarks Tipton said there was thought behind programs, but there were consequences for over spending. “We’ve seen the government—and I think none of us can question the intent has always been good. And I would challenge anyone who will demonize others for their intent, because I think no matter whatever program, there was a thought behind it.”

He said “But the problem is, as Americans, when we pull that checkbook out of our hip pocket, we know there’s only so much money. And if we exceed that amount, there are going to be consequences that have to be paid. That’s the reality that the American people expect us to truly deal with here in Washington. And they know that there are going to be some sacrifices. But those sacrifices are going to be from the standpoint that we have overspent. We’re going to have to cut back.” [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Said Debt Needed to be in Control for Future Generations**

In February 2011 floor remarks Tipton said he traveled his district and his constituents wanted “The frustration level of the American people, the people in my district, their understanding of the challenges that we face as a nation is truly remarkable. The American people get it. And what they want to see out of Washington is that Washington truly gets it. As we’re looking at your chart right now and we go to the revenues that are coming in, the spending which is going out, we’re looking at a \$1.5 trillion deficit that we are facing.” He said getting debt under control was about future generations. [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Said He Met with Paul Ryan and Number of Times on Budget and Everything was on Table**

When asked about the budget, Tipton said visited with Paul Ryan a number of times and everything was on the table in the budget. He said “I have had a visit with Paul Ryan a number of times on this to really try and understand how the process works. The continuing resolution effectively deals with the past. The debt ceiling will deal with the present and where we are going to be have our greatest impact and to be able to address –and in my mind – to start to get us to the right path in this country is when ultimately get to the budget... The preceding Congress, 111<sup>th</sup> Congress , failed to even pass the budget. There was a constitutional obligation and failed to do that and so we are cleaning up a bit of their mess and working our way through it and we are looking forward to being able to work on the budget and I think everything is going to be on the table. [G. Gordon Liddy radio show, 4:35, [3/23/11](#)]

## **On the Budget He Said He Would Build a Better Path on Entitlements**

We have to have a cleared view and we need to make sure that we are standing up when we are talking about the entitlement programs for our senior citizens, the people who don't have an option but we also have an obligation to be standing up for our children and grandchildren and for their future in building out a better pathway for them. [G. Gordon Liddy radio show, 5:00, [3/23/11](#)]

## **Supported Republican Paul Ryan Budget Proposal**

In April 2011, Tipton came out in favor of the Paul Ryan's Republican budget proposal. His statement read "Chairman Ryan's proposal addresses America's \$14.3 trillion dollar debt and sets us on a course to pay it back. It jump starts economic recovery and would create as many as 1 million new jobs according to some projections. The Ryan budget cuts \$6.2 trillion in spending over the next 10 years and places our country on a sustainable course to preserve our children and grandchildren's future." [Rep. Tipton, press release, [4/5/11](#)]

## **HYPOCRITE: Claimed to Push for Cuts, While Requesting Government Spending for Projects**

In 2011, Tipton said he supported the Ryan budget plan to simplify the tax code, partly privatize Medicare and pushed for more spending cuts. Yet, he sought funding for a bicycle trail between Gunnison and Crested, asked the secretary of the Department of Agriculture to direct unused Forest Service funds to combat the bark-beetle epidemic and worked to get the Pueblo Fire Department a new fire truck.

"This is a challenging time to come in," said Tipton, who ran a small Indian-pottery business before becoming a congressman last year. "The majority of our counties are at or near double-digit unemployment. It is always an issue when you have competing interests coming in, and the times when you say we'll find federal dollars to fix everything are really over." [Denver Post, [4/7/11](#)]

## **When Asked if He Would Vote to Cut Defense Spending Tipton Said "You Bet"**

Tipton was asked if he would vote to cut defense spending. He said "You bet. As long as other people don't try to bring my family into issues, I've got a son – in – law in the Air Force who points out a variety of areas where there could be efficiencies. We are building some jets that the military said they didn't want. But they were being built, because congressmen through earmarks were able to demand that they be built; that's wrong. We all want to make sure that, for certain, we are providing our men and women that are in harms way, everything that they need to be able to be as safe as they possibly can and that we give them the necessary comforts that they need while they are out in the field."

He went on to say "But in that bureaucracy, and Secretary Gates, has even pointed to waste in the Defense Department budget, as you probably recall, I voted to kill the GE backup engine, for the F35 fighter. It was inappropriate, just because...the Department of Defense is a big bureaucracy. There's a lot of waste that's in there, we can do better for our men and women in the military who are serving, and we can do better for the American taxpayers; so that's a long way to get to saying, yes." [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

## **Said there was Frustration with Speaker Boehner Over Lack of Cuts in 2011 CR**

The host asked Tipton if he was concerned that Boehner was the speaker of the house because he was at the scene of the crime with government over-spending. Tipton said “You know, I think there’s going to be a lot of frustration and I’ll be happy to give you a buzz back and even visit with you on what goes on in Conference because the one thing that you have, that you hope that you value to the best of your ability is, what you’re saying is the truth. And I think the moving shell game, even in terms of, and it’s the problem I have with the CR, is we’re talking originally about, you kind of ran through the numbers Rob, \$38 billion, well, not really...Then it was taken down to about 20. Now we’re all the way down to \$352 million according to the CBO. I think there needs to be some questions answered from leadership.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

### **Said Speaker Had Some explaining to do with Lack of Cuts to CR**

The host asked Tipton whether the speaker was straight forward with the conference and whether the conference trusted Boehner going forward given. Tipton said “Yeah, I’ve got a lot of questions. And...I’m not trying to stick up for him at all in this sense. They’re dealing with some different sides, but you get a sense of the politics as usual that are going on. And we’ll just keep playing with the numbers until they say what we want them to say, and I’ve got a real sense, we’ve been back in our district and traveling through virtually every weekend here...the people have an appetite now, and I’m receiving emails daily that say cut, we know there’s going to be some hardship but we still think there has to be cuts...And I think the speaker needs to explain this some and I’ll listen and I’ll be happy to pass on his explanation because I can’t think of a defense for going down to \$352 million.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

### **Said His Trust in Speaker was Damaged**

The host asked Tipton if he trust in Speaker Boehner been damaged during 2011 CR bill negotiations. Tipton said “You know, I would say yes...but I will give him the caveat as I always give somebody an opportunity to explain. And I want to hear how we went from \$100 billion down to \$352 million.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

### **Voted Against 2011 Continuing Resolution Because it Fell Short of Cutting \$100 Billion**

The host, Rob Douglas welcomed Scott Tipton and discussed the cuts to in the 2011 final continuing resolution. The host stated that the cuts were originally supposed to be \$100 billion, were then reduced to \$61 billion, to \$38.5 billion and asked Tipton if the Pledge to America meant nothing. Tipton said “Well we have not followed through for only cutting \$352 million dollars as a body. ...we’re seeing some members fall off of this meaning they’re voting no and that’s probably when people get the opportunity to read the bill with the 72 hour waiting period for it. And I think the \$352 million is far short obviously of the \$100 billion and it’s what we’d like to see time and again, even \$100 billion when we’re looking at the massive spending and deficit and even the spending during this fiscal year of \$3.7 trillion.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:01:47, [4/14/11](#)]

### **Headline: “GOP freshman: Faith in Boehner shaken after 2011 spending fight”**

In 2011, after the continuing resolution fight Tipton said there was “frustration” with Boehner.

You know, I would say yes," Tipton said on the syndicated "Cari and Rob" radio show when asked if his trust in Boehner had been shaken in the spending fight, "but I will give him the caveat as I always give somebody an opportunity to explain." [[The Hill, 4/18/11](#)]

### **Supported a Government Shutdown by Voting Against Final 2011 Continuing Resolution**

In April 2011, Tipton voted against the continuing resolution to fund the government through September. He said he voted against the measure because it didn't go far enough with \$38 billion in cuts. [[Denver Post, 4/15/11](#)]

### **Said He Would Re-Institute the Year to Year Funding Ban on Piñon Canyon if He Couldn't Come Up with a Better Solution**

When questioned on the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site "I made a pledge during the campaign that I will stand behind," Tipton said. "That is, that I will stand up for farmers and ranchers in the Piñon Canyon area. What we're trying to do is figure out the best way to proceed, because the waiver that was brought up, that's administrative, not legislative. We're going to sit down with these folks and see what's the best way to proceed, but I will stand by my pledge to help farmers and ranchers. We will re-institute the year to year funding ban, if we can't come up with a better solution."

He went on to say "One of the best things we can do is what we're doing right now," Tipton said. "Having a good, open and frank dialogue. Maybe we agree on some things and maybe we disagree, but its kind of opening things up and you have made some very valid points. One of the things we will look into is talking with people at the Department of Defense on these issues. I hate to promise you the world, because you can only do what you can do, but the Army Secretary did come here and promise no more expansion for at least five years." [[Trinidad Times, 4/29/11](#)]

### **Attacked Opponent in 2010 Election for Voting to Raise Debt Limit**

In 2011, Tipton attacked then-Rep. John Salazar for voting to raise the debt limit. "What are you doing?" an ad said. "Your wasteful spending is bankrupting America." [[LA Times, 5/3/11](#)]

### **In His Campaign Tipton Called for 50% Cut in Federal Government**

I am running for Congress because I have a vision for a federal government that is half the size and cost that it is today. Half as expensive as it is today. Half as many programs. Half Everything! [Campaign Email, Scott Tipton, 5/18/10]

### **Durango Herald Editorial Said Tipton's Plan Would "Cripple National Security."**

In May 2010, the Durango Herald wrote an editorial, which said "This not to mock Tipton. Most campaigns at some point make some ludicrous claim. ... Still, cutting the federal budget by 50 percent would be economically disastrous, trash huge segments of society and cripple national security. It also is politically impossible." [Editorial, [Durango Herald, 5/21/10](#)]

### **Tipton Claimed He Ran On a Proposal to Cut Spending 10 Percent**

On Fox Business Network Tipton said, “in my campaign we ran on a very simple proposal, let’s cut discretionary spending in this country by a flat 10 percent.” [[Fox Business Network](#), 2/9/11]

### **Spent More on Staff Salaries than Any Other Freshman Member of Congress**

In June 2011, it was reported that Tipton spent more on staff salaries in the first quarter than any other freshman member of Congress. Tipton was one of only 17 freshmen to spend more than \$200,000 on salaries. Tipton spent a total \$243,431 in total salaries in the first quarter, while his predecessor John Salazar spent just \$153,013. [[coloradopolis.com](#), [6/6/2011](#)]

### **Voted Against Budget Deal Because It Didn’t Cut Enough Federal Spending**

In 2011, Tipton voted against the continuing resolution compromise that funded the federal government through fiscal year 2011, saying it did not go far enough in cutting federal spending.

“The government isn’t suffering from taxing too little,” Tipton said. “It’s because we’re spending too much. They (voters) want to see it straightened out.” [[Denver Post](#), [4/07/11](#)]

### **Encouraged by Republican Leadership to vote for Budget Deal**

In 2011, Tipton was encouraged by Republican Party leadership to vote for the 2011 continuing resolution deal that was reached between Democrats and Republicans. Tipton refused to support the continuing resolution

“I’ve been lobbied by leadership aggressively on this that we made need your vote and I told them you know you’re not getting my vote, my word, I’m voting no. And that ends it that I continue to have varying levels of leadership coming up, pushing on it.” [[The Cari and Rob Show](#), [4/14/11](#)]

### **Encouraged Fellow Members to Vote against Budget Deal**

In 2011, Tipton said that his explanation to his fellow Congressmen about why he was voting against the 2011 continuing resolution had caused some members to vote no one the resolution.

“I’ve had people ask my counsel, and I’ve told them how I’m voting and why and we’ve had several votes who have been turned to no off of that,” said Tipton. [[The Cari and Rob Show](#), [4/14/11](#)]

### **Sought Federal Funding ...to Build a Bicycle Trail**

In 2011, Tipton sought federal funding to build a bicycle trail between Gunnison and Crested Butte. [[Denver Post](#), [4/07/11](#)]

#### **...To Combat Bark Beetle**

In 2011, Tipton requested unused funds from the Forest Service be used to combat the destructive bark-beetle epidemic in Colorado. [[Denver Post](#), [4/07/11](#)]

#### **...To Purchase Pueblo Fire Department Fire Truck**

In 2011, Tipton worked to get a free, used fire truck from federal-government inventory but was unsure whether one would be available. [[Denver Post, 4/07/11](#)]

### **Tipton: Obama Budget Shows He Has “Never Worked in the Private Sector”**

In 2011, Tipton criticized President Obama’s budget plan to cut \$4 trillion in spending and raise taxes by \$1.5 trillion. Tipton went on to say that the President’s plan targets small-business owners who pay corporate taxes by filing as individuals and who might qualify as wealthy under the plan.

“That vividly illustrates that we have a chief executive that’s never worked in the private sector,” he said. “These are people who are creating jobs. He needs to be reminded of that.” [[Durango Herald, 4/19/11](#)]

### **Opposed President’s 2012 Budget Proposal Saying it would Raise Taxes**

In 2011, Tipton criticized the President for wanting to raise taxes instead of shrink the deficit.

“With double-digit unemployment across our district, I have serious reservations with the president’s plan to raise taxes as a way to shrink the deficit... We must create jobs and grow our revenue base, rather than stunt it with tax increases on job creators,” Tipton said. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/14/11](#)]

### **President Obama’s Budget Plan Puts America on a Path Toward “Imminent Bankruptcy”**

In 2011, Tipton criticized President Obama’s plan for raising taxes and putting America on the path to bankruptcy.

“The president’s budget permanently expands government, leaves health care and retirement programs on the course toward imminent bankruptcy and raises taxes by \$1.5 trillion,” Tipton said in a statement. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/06/11](#)]

### **Voted to Set Spending Caps without Disclosing Dollar Amounts**

In 2011, Tipton voted to adopt a resolution setting a spending cap reducing non-security discretionary spending to fiscal 2008 levels.

The resolution did not provide specifics, such as a dollar amount or definition of non-security spending. Democrats criticized the resolution as a “public relations exercise” timed by Republicans in advance of that evening’s State of the Union address by President Obama. [[CQ Today, 1/25/11](#)]

“You have no idea what you are voting on,” Minority Whip Steny Hoyer said of the resolution without numbers. Representative Jim McGovern challenged each Republican speaker, “What’s the number, what’s the cut?” [[Politico, 1/25/11](#)]

The resolution passed, 256-165. [H Res 38, [Vote #20](#), 1/25/11]

### **Voted Against Additional \$22 Billion in Cuts to 2011 Budget**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an additional \$22 billion in cuts, pushed by conservative freshmen and the Republican Study Committee. The amendment would have reduced funding for the legislative branch by 11 percent and all other continuing resolution funding by 5.5 percent, with exemptions for the Department of Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs and for aid to Israel.

Out of 87 freshmen Republicans, 58 – or about two-thirds – voted in favor of the amendment.

The cuts were so extreme that Republican Study Committee member Jo Bonner said he worried that the amendment “would take a more indiscriminate, hatchet approach” to the budget. Dan Lungren, a former RSC chairman, said, “Across-the-board cuts are lazy members’ way to achieve something.” Lungren also warned colleagues that the amendment would “paralyze” the U.S. Capitol Police [CQ Today, 2/18/11; [Washington Post, 2/18/11](#)]

The amendment was rejected, 147-281. [HR 1, Blackburn amendment #104, [Vote #103](#), 2/18/11]

### **Federal Government Should Make Cuts Just Like Local Government**

In 2011, Tipton, in explaining his reasoning for voting no on the 2011 budget compromise believe that it was time for the federal government to act like local government and cut spending.

“We have communities that are not in recessions, they’re in depressions,” he said. “We’re asking them – and they have – to tighten their belts,” he said, adding the federal government needs to now do the same. [[Durango Herald, 4/19/11](#)]

### **Opposed Budget Fix to Reduce Budget Obligations, Fund Programs**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill to allow Colorado to use money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to reduce budget obligations, instead of expanding other programs.

The ARRA increased the federal match rate for Medicaid and child welfare programs but certain programs required changes to their statutory funding formulas. Without the necessary changes of Senate Bill 264, certain programs would see “substantial funding decreases” in subsequent fiscal years. [SB09-264 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 5/05/09]

The bill passed the House, 51-14. [SB09-264, House Journal page 1227, 4/16/09]

### **Local Radio Stations Told Tipton that Defunding NPR Would Hurt Them**

In March 2011, the directors of Aspen Public Radio and KDNK Community Radio met with Tipton telling him that ending funding for NPR would devastate local radio stations, not NPR itself.

Aspen Public Radio received \$170,000 in grants the previous year, which represented between 17 and 18 percent of the station’s budget. Carbondale-based KDNK Community Radio received about \$140,000, making up about a quarter of its \$565,000 budget.

“Maybe NPR doesn’t need federal funding but we certainly do,” said Steve Skinner of KDNK. “Schiller was right, in a way, that NPR might be better off without that piece of federal funding. But we are not NPR.”

“What I told him is that if you want to injure NPR’s national programming this isn’t going to do it,” said Andrew Todd, Executive Director of Aspen Public Radio, to Scott Tipton. “This is going to hurt local stations.”

Tipton voted to defund National Public Radio. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 3/11/11; Thomas.loc.gov, HR 1076, accessed 8/08/11]

### **Tipton: “Once a Program Starts, It Never Ends”**

In February 2011, during remarks made on the House floor, Tipton criticized government programs saying that once a government program is created, “it never ends.”

“One of the real challenges that we face is there seems to be a mentality in Washington, D.C., that once a program starts, it never ends. We will build on it. We will expand it. We will create redundancies, and we will build out that bureaucracy. In the private sector, we do things a little bit differently.” [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Called Banking Regulations too Restrictive; Didn’t Believe U.S. Would Default on Debt**

In June 2011, Tipton went to the White House and sent a message to President Obama that trillions of dollars in federal spending needed to be cut from future budgets if they were to raise the federal debt ceiling before the August 2011 deadline announced by the Treasury Department.

Tipton said he spoke briefly to the president following the meeting and told Obama the economy of the 3rd District remained stalled with little job growth. As an example, Tipton said new banking regulations were too restrictive, and prevented needed loans to small businesses.

He said he believed an agreement on the debt ceiling would be reached. “I don’t see us ever defaulting on our debt,” he said. “We have a \$14.3 trillion debt and if the president and the Republican leadership are showing positive moves to do something about it, I think the financial markets will respond accordingly.” [[Chieftain](#), 6/01/11]

### **During His 2010 Campaign, Tipton Vowed to Slash Federal Funding and End Earmarks**

In 2011, the Aspen Times reported, “Tipton’s central campaign vow was to slash federal spending. He said the Congressional tradition of earmarking funds for projects needed to end.” [[Aspen Times](#), 6/6/11]

### **Was Accused of Failing to Apply Federal Budget Cuts Evenly**

In 2011, the [Aspen Times](#) reported, “Congressman Scott Tipton doesn’t appear to be applying his cleaver evenly to the federal budget.” In the same month he declined to support a \$25 million federal grant to the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority, yet lobbied colleagues to approve federal funding that would benefit a research center in Pueblo. Tipton objected in part to a wireless connection associated with the

bus project. “The wireless connection is a \$15,000 item, according to RFTA. Because of a cost-sharing agreement, the federal grant would pay about \$9,000 of that bill; local funds would cover the rest.”

Yet, less than two weeks after working to hold up the RFTA project Tipton wrote a letter to leaders of the House Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development of the House Appropriations Committees urging support for federal funding for the Transportation Technology Center Inc. (TTCI) in Pueblo. [[Aspen Times, 6/6/11](#)]

### **Favored Federal Funds for Projects in Areas of His District that Favored Him in Election**

In 2011, in the same month Tipton opposed federal funding for a \$25 million federal grant to the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority in Pitkin County. However, he lobbied in favor of federal funding for the Transportation Technology Center Inc. (TTCI) in Pueblo county. The Aspen Times reported that during the 2010 elections “Tipton ran a closer race in Pueblo and the more heavily-populated county might be key to any re-election bid next year. Tipton lost by more than a 2-to-1 margin in Pitkin County in November. He garnered just 2,085 votes to Salazar’s 5,059 in the liberal county. In Pueblo County, Tipton received 22,071 votes to Salazar’s 29,988.” [[Aspen Times, 6/6/11](#)]

### **First Quarter 2011: Spent More Than Any Freshman Member of Congress on Staff**

In the first quarter of 2011, Colorado Pols reported that Tipton “spent more money on staff than any other freshman Congressman in the nation. The supposedly small-government champion rang in at \$243,431 in staff expenses for the first quarter of 2011.” [[Colorado Springs Independent, 6/8/11](#)]

### **Worked to Get Federal Funding for Airport Runway, Working Around “No-Earmark” Rule**

In 2011, Tipton met with Pueblo city officials about their “wish list for federal funding.” The Pueblo Memorial Airport began construction of a \$12 million, 5,000-foot runway, 95 percent of which was being paid for by the Federal Aviation Administration. Tipton’s staff was reportedly working with the city to see if the new runway could be incorporated into the FAA’s budget despite the “no-earmark” rule in the House. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 6/9/11](#)]

### **House Appropriations Subcommittee Passed 2012 Budget Bill Without Blocking the Army From Spending Money to Expand the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site**

In 2011, House appropriations subcommittee in charge of military construction passed its 2012 budget bill without blocking the Army from spending money to expand the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site. The funding ban was authored by former Colorado Reps. John Salazar and Marilyn Musgrave. Tipton previously told ranchers at a Trinidad meeting that he intended to keep the funding moratorium in place. “Congressman Tipton is going to offer an amendment — to restore the funding ban — when the military construction bill comes to the full House floor for consideration,” Josh Green, Tipton’s spokesman. “We’ve gotten permission from the House (Republican) leadership to offer that amendment.”

Ranchers reacted to the news that the funding ban had been lifted with alarm. “We’re deeply disappointed that this has happened,” said Lon Robertson, a Kim area rancher and president of the Pinon Canyon Expansion Opposition Coalition. “Mr. Tipton told us he intended to keep the moratorium in place while

he worked for a long-term solution. We'd told him that we'd support him if he'd support us, so we weren't expecting this. I hope he intends to restore the funding moratorium." [Pueblo Chieftain, [5/20/11](#)]

### **Funding Ban on Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site No longer Blocked**

In May 2011, a congressional committee approved a budget that no longer blocked the Army from spending money to expand the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. According to the Pueblo Chieftain, Tipton previously told ranchers that he intended to keep the funding moratorium in place while he worked on a longer-term solution. [[Gazette, 5/20/11](#)]

### **Refused to Outright Reject Tax Increases in the Future**

In 2011, Tipton refused to reject ever voting for a tax increase saying, "You've got to be cautious dealing with hypothetical's." [[Durango Herald, 7/20/11](#)]

### **Backed Cut, Cap and Balance Which Would Eventually Cut Social Security**

In 2011, Tipton voted for Cut, Cap and Balance plan saying, "We need to let the Senate of the United States and the president of the United States know that we will be holding them accountable." Democrats asserted that the plan would cut Medicare. The Durango Herald reported "The plan would cut \$3.7 trillion out of the deficit over a decade, and the cuts would include the military and, eventually, Social Security." [[Durango Herald, 7/20/11](#)]

### **Would Not Rule Out Voting for Increased Taxes in Context of Debt Ceiling Negotiations**

When discussing a potential deal on the debt limit, Tipton would not go so far as to say he would never vote for a plan that increased taxes. He said, "You've got to be cautious dealing with hypothetical's." Tipton defended the "cut, cap and balance" plan on the House floor saying it would limit federal spending and require a balanced budget. [[Durango Herald, 7/20/11](#)]

### **Said Democrats and Republicans Were Willing to Work Together on Debt Ceiling**

In June 2011, Tipton went to the White House and sent a message to President Obama that trillions of dollars in federal spending needed to be cut from future budgets if they were to raise the federal debt ceiling before the August 2011 deadline announced by the Treasury Department.

Tipton said, "[t]here are two parties and we have different approaches...I did get a sense of a willingness to work together. Several people expressed the sentiment that we can't afford to demonize ideas, that they are the beginning point for discussions. We need to have ideas coming from the other side." [[Chieftain, 6/01/11](#)]

### **Tipton Claimed That Lack of Debt Ceiling Deal Did Not Put Seniors Social Security at Risk**

During a 2011 telephone town hall meeting Tipton claimed that even if a debt ceiling deal was not reached senior citizens and military personnel would get their Social Security, Medicare and military paychecks. During the call Tipton told an elderly caller concerned about receiving Social Security disability payments that he would not support any budget proposal that would do that to current senior. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 7/27/11](#)]

## **Said He Would Consider Public Works and Unemployment Extension Proposed in Obama's Job Speech**

In 2011, Tipton said the President's job speech was moving in the right direction. He said any spending, would require corresponding budget cuts, but said he was open to Obama's call for \$105 billion in public works spending and Obama's call for a \$50 billion extension in unemployment benefits. "No one wants to hurt the truly disadvantaged, but I'd want to look at extension closely," he said. "We've heard examples of people not accepting jobs because of extending unemployment and that's not the purpose." [Pueblo Chieftain, [9/9/11](#)]

## **Supported Balanced Budget Amendment to Address Spending Problem**

In 2011, Tipton supported the Balanced Budget Amendment saying it would address the country's spending problem. Tipton said "while this common sense solution failed today, there is still a significant opportunity to seriously address our country's spending problem. We must meet our existing obligations, fulfilling the promise to our seniors and military, while fulfilling our obligation to ensure that our children and grandchildren have the opportunity to achieve the American dream." [Rep. Tipton, press release, 11/18/11]

## **Tipton Defended Vote to Privatize Medicare**

In 2011, Tipton and Gardner defended their Medicare votes. The Denver Post reported "A day after the Senate voted down Wisconsin Republican Rep. Paul Ryan's budget plan — which would pare more than \$4 trillion over 10 years in part by changing government-run Medicare to subsidized private insurance for those younger than 55 — House Republicans found themselves in sharp defense mode." [Denver Post, [5/27/11](#)]

## **Said "Paul Ryan Just Showed us the Pathway to be Able to Cut \$6.2 trillion"**

The host asked Tipton if he would vote for cuts in the 2011 continuing resolution that were less than the full \$61 billion. Tipton said "We've talked about this, this is just a gnat on the back of an elephant...when we are totally looking at this \$3.2 trillion budget, and we are whining about cutting \$100 billion. Well Paul Ryan just showed us the pathway to be able to cut \$6.2 trillion. A \$100 billion is just a footnote on this amount...we're going to vote to hold the feet to the fire we must, this is the starting point." [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

## **Called 2012 Ryan Republican Budget Bold and a First Stand**

The host asked Tipton about the three major financial decisions coming up in 2011. He was asked what to do with the rest of 2011, the 2012 budget, and the debt ceiling. Tipton said "You know that's a big issue; I think obviously Ryan's plan is bold, looking at cutting \$6.2 trillion. But this is going to be the first stand, government has been able to run without a budget because we kept dealing with continuing resolutions that were being put forward and we need to fight that battle. But it is going to be a series of issues that we're going to be dealing with Cari, and I think that we do need to get down and say this is as far as we are willing to go, let's deal with this fiscal cycle because the last congress failed to even pass even a budget which is why we're dealing with what we're dealing with right now and we simply can't afford it."

He went on to say “All we have to do is look at the numbers, and we are endangering the future of our senior citizens by running this country further into debt and we all have no questions, our children’s and grandchildren’s prospects are greatly dimmed because of the failure of democrat leadership that deal with red ink.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

### **Said He Liked Ryan Plan, but Not Necessarily the Particulars**

In April 2011, Tipton said he liked the Ryan plan, but necessarily the particulars. “I like that it would simplify the tax code and several economists have already said it would create millions of new jobs,” Tipton said. “When you look at the unemployment rate in Pueblo County and around the Third District, we have to be in the business of creating jobs.” [[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/9/11](#)]

### **Editorial: Tipton Voted for the Paul Ryan 2012 Budget That Would “Transform (or Maybe Transmongrify) Medicare and Medicaid”**

In 2011, the Denver Post wrote an editorial entitled “Is our congressional delegation as out of touch with voters as their budget votes.” They went on to write “As part of the Tea Party-flavored Republican freshman class, Tipton and Gardner were certain to vote against the compromise bill that promised \$38 billion in cuts. They waited the extra day to vote for Paul Ryan’s 2012 budget bill that promised to transform (or maybe transmongrify) Medicare and Medicaid.” [Editorial, [Denver Post, 4/16/11](#)]

### **Headline: “Local Senior Programs At Risk In Federal Budget Cuts; Proposed \$1.1 Billion Cuts Could Impact Seniors”**

In March 2011, it was reported that when the Tipton voted to approve budget cuts in February and March, senior programs were put in jeopardy. Programs such as Foster Grandparent program, Senior Companion program, and the Retired ans Senior Volunteer program (RSVP) were to be potentially eliminated.

Tipton said “The unfortunate reality of the situation is that we have to make some tough cuts if we are going to start to dig ourselves out of a \$1.5 trillion deficit and \$14.3 trillion in debt.”

KJCT News 8 reported “The move could fire 450,000 volunteers and force senior citizens with medical problems to spend thousands of dollars to continue the care.” Volunteers got paid \$2.65 an hour to drive seniors to the doctors and help out around the house. [[kjct8, Local Senior Programs At Risk In Federal Budget Cuts, 3/21/11](#)]

### **Voted to Maintain Funding for the “Bridge to Nowhere”**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have prevented funding for the notorious Alaskan “Bridge to Nowhere.” The motion to recommit would have rescinded \$183 million in funding for planning, design and construction of the Gravina Island and Knik Arm bridges in Alaska.

The motion specifically rescinded all unobligated balances provided for the planning or construction of the both bridges. Rep. Jared Polis, who introduced the measure, noted that a CBO study estimated that the motion would reduce the deficit by \$160 million. [CQ Today, 3/02/11]

The motion failed, 181-246. [HR 662, [Vote #159](#), 3/02/11]

### **Voted to Allow the Reopening of the Second Engine for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter**

In 2011, Tipton voted to ban funds for the improvement of F-35 Joint Strike Fighter engines unless the Department of Defense makes money available for purchasing the F-35 alternative engine.

The FY2012 Defense Authorization bill contained a number of policy riders including one which states that no government money would go to the alternative engine but that the group could continue to work on the engine at their own cost. Also, the rider “would require the Pentagon to create competition for the F-35 engine contract should certain enhancements be made to the main engine.” [[The Hill, 5/25/11](#); [Marine Corps Times, 5/23/11](#); CQ BillAnalysis HR 1540, 7/04/11]

The bill passed 322-96. [HR 1540, [Vote #375](#), 5/26/11]

### **Voted for a Balanced Budget Amendment**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution.

The resolution would have amended the Constitution to require the balancing of the federal budget by, whichever happens second, fiscal year 2018 or the second fiscal year after ratification by the states. The amendment would require three-fifths of the house to approve debt ceiling increases and deficit spending and a majority to waive the requirement during times of war or serious military threat. [CQ Floor Votes, 11/18/11]

Critics of the amendment noted that it would require severe cuts that Congress had previously refused to pass and would limit the government’s ability to respond to economic turmoil. [[Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 11/18/11](#)]

The resolution failed to reach the required two-thirds majority, 261-165. [H J Res 2, [Vote #858](#), 11/18/11]

## **Banking Issues**

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *In 2009, Tipton had over \$64,000 invested in banks that were bailed out using TARP funds*
- ✓ *Served on the Board of Vectra Bank of Colorado*

**Scott Tipton invested over \$64,000 in banks that were bailed out by the U.S. Treasury using TARP funds. Among those investments was Zions Bancorporation, a bank in which Tipton explicitly says that he did not profit from their receiving of TARP funds. Evidence showed however that Tipton had invested thousands in the company at the time of Zions Bancorporation's bailout, directly showing Tipton profited directly from the TARP program. Tipton also served on the board of directors for Vectra Bank of Colorado, a subsidiary of Zions.**

### **Tipton Served on the Board of Vectra Bank from 1998 to 2005**

Scott Tipton served on the board of Vectra Bank Colorado from 1998 to 2005. [[Denver Post](#), 11/09/98; [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/2/10]

#### **... However, Claimed to Have Never Served on a Bank Board**

In 2010, during an interview on Fox news, Tipton claimed to have never served on a bank board.

“You know, I served on Vectra Bank Colorado, and it was four years ago. I was not serving on a bank board and Vectra never received direct stimulus money. That was through the parent corporation, Zion. But I certainly didn't profit.” [Fox News Channel “Happening Now” Interview, 10/14/10]

#### **“But I Certainly Didn't Profit?” ... Had Thousands Invested in Bailed-Out Zions Bancorporation**

In 2010, Tipton claimed that he “certainly didn't profit” from the bank bailout of Zions Bancorporation in 2008.

However, according to Tipton’s 2009 financial disclosure, while Scott Tipton was suggesting that he did not profit from Zions Bancorporation’s bailout, he actually held assets in Zions Bancorporation valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009, CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

#### **... and Invested in Zions Bancorporation Jointly with His Wife**

According to Tipton’s 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held joint assets with his wife in Zions Bancorporation valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **... Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

## **2009: Tipton Invested \$49,007 - \$210,000 in Banks that were Bailed-Out Using TARP Funds**

Need an intro sentence.

### **Invested Thousands in Bank of America**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Bank of America valued between \$1,001- \$15,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **...Also Invested in Bank of America Jointly with His Wife**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held joint assets with his wife Jean in Bank of America valued between \$1,001- \$15,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **October 2008: Received \$15 Billion in Bailout Money**

On October 28, 2010, Bank of America received \$15 billion from the U.S. Treasury in bailout money. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

### **Invested Thousands in Citigroup**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Citigroup valued between \$2,002- \$30,000. Tipton did not receive dividend payments from Citigroup in 2009 [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **October 2008: Received \$25 Billion in Bailout Money**

On October 28, 2010, Citigroup received \$25 billion in bailout money from the U.S. Treasury. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

### **Invested Thousands in JP Morgan Chase**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in JP Morgan Chase valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1,001-\$2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **October 2008: Received \$25 Billion in Bailout Money**

On October 28, 2010, JP Morgan Chase received \$25 billion in bailout money from the U.S. Treasury. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

### **Tipton Invested \$64,008 - \$245,000 in Banks that were Bailed-Out Using TARP Funds**

In 2010, Scott Tipton had over 64,000 invested in banks that had been bailed by the U.S. Treasury using TARP funds. [2010 Personal Financial Disclosure]

#### **Criticized Salazar for “Protecting Wall Street Execs”**

In 2010, Tipton criticized Salazar for his alleged support of TARP claiming in a TV ad that “Salazar protected wall street executives with massive bonuses during our economic crisis.”

Salazar never voted for TARP, but instead voted for the TARP Reform and Accountability Act, which imposed new regulations and transparency for those companies receiving a bail out from the 2008 recovery. [kktv.com, [10/20/10](#)]

#### **Invested Thousands in Bank of America in 2010**

Tipton’s 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

#### **Invested Thousands in Citigroup in 2010**

Tipton’s 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$2,002-\$30,000. Tipton did not receive dividend payments from Citigroup in 2010. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

#### **Invested Thousands in the JP Morgan Chase in 2010**

Tipton’s 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1,001-\$2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

#### **Sued by National Credit Union Association for Misrepresenting the Value of Mortgage Securities**

In June 2011, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) announced that it was filing suit against JP Morgan Chase for misrepresenting the value of mortgage-backed securities that they sold in recent years, triggering the failure of five credit unions.

The NCUA has filed suit for over \$800 million against JP Morgan Chase and Royal Bank of Scotland. Additional suits are expected with potential damages sought to be in the billions. [CNN Money, 6/21/11]

## **Invested Thousands in Royal Bank of Scotland**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Royal Bank of Scotland valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was \$1,001- 2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **... Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1,001-\$2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **Sued by National Credit Union Association for Misrepresenting the Value of Mortgage Securities**

In June 2011, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) announced that it was filing suit against Royal Bank of Scotland for misrepresenting the value of mortgage-backed securities that they sold in recent years, triggering the failure of five credit unions.

The NCUA has filed suit for over \$800 million against JP Morgan Chase and Royal Bank of Scotland. Additional suits are expected with potential damages sought to be in the billions. [CNN Money, 6/21/11]

## **Backed Bill to Allow Community Banks to Amortize Part of Commercial Real Estate Losses**

In 2011, Tipton introduced The Capital Access for Main Street (CAMS) Act which was designed to temporarily allow small community banks amortize a portion of their commercial real estate losses over a seven-year period.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They account for most of our nation's new jobs, employ half of the country's private sector workforce, and provide for half of the nonfarm, private real GDP in the U.S.," Tipton said. "Our CAMS bill will free up much needed capital so that community banks will be able to make responsible loans to small businesses so that they can expand, creating badly needed jobs." [\[Colorado Independent, 4/5/11\]](#)

## **Called Report that Federal Reserve Secretly Loaned Trillions to Banks "Shameful"**

In 2011, despite a report that the Federal Reserve secretly loaned trillions of dollars and did its job, Tipton said the action was shameful. Tipton said "When the treasury secretary and Congress are kept in the dark like this, it's clear there are major transparency issues that need to be addressed." [\[Chieftain, 11/30/11\]](#)

## Campaign Finance and Election Law Issues

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Did not vote on motion requiring foreign countries and companies to disclose campaign donations*
- ✓ *Voted to end public funding of presidential campaigns*

**Scott Tipton did not vote on a motion that would require foreign countries and companies to disclose how much they donate to Presidential campaigns. Tipton also voted to end public funding of Presidential campaigns.**

### **Did Not Vote on Motion Requiring Disclosure of Foreign Countries, Companies Donating to Presidential Campaigns**

In 2011, Tipton did not vote on motion requiring the disclosure of certain foreign entities donating to presidential campaigns, as well as donors spending over \$100,000 on those contests. He participated in the roll calls before and after this vote.

The motion to recommit would have required, more specifically, the disclosure of foreign countries, companies or individuals donating to presidential campaigns. [CQ Weekly, [1/31/11](#)]

The motion failed, 173-229. [H. Res. 359, [Vote #24](#), 1/26/11]

### **Accused of Pandering to Corporations by Voting to End Public Funding of Presidential Campaigns**

In 2011, Tipton voted to terminate the Presidential Election Campaign Fund, which provided public funding during presidential elections. The Congressional Budget Office estimated that the move would reduce mandatory spending by \$617 million over 10 years.

The fund was established after the Watergate scandal and provided matching funds for presidential primary candidates and grants for general election candidates who comply with spending and contribution limits. The fund was financed through check-offs on income tax returns. An amendment, offered by Representative Gary Peters, added language specifying that funds returned to the Treasury could only be used for reducing the benefits. [CQ Today, 1/26/11]

In an editorial in the [New York Times](#), the paper noted that House Republicans were “pandering to the new corporate money through legitimization by the Supreme Court” by cutting off the funding.

“The public subsidy remains popular in the public polls. Opponents may invoke budget savings – an estimated \$52 million a year – but there is no mistaking their aim is to destroy what has been a bulwark against the buying and selling of the presidency.” [[New York Times](#), Editorial, [2/26/11](#)]

The bill passed, 239-160. [HR 359, [Vote #25](#), 1/26/11]

### **Received Money from Koch – Represented District Where Koch Proposing to Mine**

In 2011, Tipton received from funds from Koch entities and Bill Koch advocated for mining on his property in Tipton’s district. Bill Koch advocated for allowing Oxbow Mining to explore his land for coal. Located about 20 miles from Oxbow’s existing Elk Creek Mine along the North Fork of the Gunnison River the proposed Oak Mesa Mine could recover up to 150 million tons of coal. Some area residents were leery. Koch bought the historic 7X Ranch near Hotchkiss earlier this year for a reported \$10 million – he funneled money to Tipton who represented the Oak Mesa area. [[Colorado Independent](#), [10/10/11](#)]

### **Headline: Slick campaign: Oil and gas money fills Tipton’s coffers**

In 2011, Tipton filled his campaign coffers with money from oil companies. Tipton has been a cheerleader for oil and gas and he has worked to weaken the Environmental Protection Agency and other bureaucracies that regulate the industry. [[Real Aspen](#), [10/19/11](#)]

### **Got Large Amounts of Money from Oil and Gas – SG Interests Wanted Lease in Thompson Divide**

In 2011, oil and gas money more than doubled Tipton’s fundraising in the third quarter. He also got a large amount of money from SG Interests – a company that sought leases in section of Thompson Divide. “Russell Gordy, owner of SG Interests in Houston, Texas, his wife and employees are among the congressman’s biggest boosters, collectively contributing \$10,600 to his campaign coffers to date. SG Interests is seeking federal approval to commence exploratory drilling on leases that cover 32,000 acres of public land in a section of Thompson Divide that is in the congressman’s sprawling district.” [[Colorado Independent](#), [10/19/11](#)]

### **Rebounded from Being Worst Fundraiser at Beginning of 2011**

Tipton was the worst Republican fundraiser at the beginning of 2011, but raised \$300,000 with the help of Speaker Boehner in the third fundraising quarter. Sal Pace raised \$165,000 in the most recent reporting period. [[KGWN TV](#), [10/17/11](#)]

### **Tipton Received Over \$15,000 from SG Interests**

During the 2010 election cycle, Tipton received \$7,200 from SG Interests. The company was one of his top ten contributors. [Center for Responsive Politics, [accessed 10/20/11](#)]

- **Russell Gordy, the Owner of SG Interests and Glenda Gordy Gave Tipton \$5,500.** In 2011, Tipton received a donation of \$2,000 and \$500 from Russell Gordy, the owner of SG Interests on September 28, 2011 and another \$500 donation on March 25, 2011. His address was listed as 100 Waugh Drive Suite 400, Houston, Texas 77007. Tipton received another donation \$2,500 donation

from Glenda Gordy on September 28, 2011, who also lived at 100 Waugh Drive Suite 400, Houston, Texas 77007. [FEC, VoteTipton.com, Filed [10/15/11](#); FEC, VoteTipton.com, Filed [7/15/11](#)]

- **Shaun Gordy an Engineer with SG Interests Gave Tipton \$2,500.** In 2011, Tipton received a donation of \$2,500 from Shaun Gordy an engineer with SG Interests on September 29, 2011. [FEC, VoteTipton.com, Filed [10/15/11](#)]

## **Had Fundraiser with Boehner; Could Use Fundraising Help**

On August 27, 2011, Tipton was scheduled to have a fundraiser with GOP House Speaker John Boehner that was rumored to require a \$5,000 campaign contribution to get in to the reception. It was reported, “Tipton, a freshman Republican from Cortez, could use some fundraising help,” since his opponent raised almost as much as he did in the previous quarter. [Blog, [Denver Post, 8/19/11](#)]

## **Headline: Tipton, Pace tight in money contest**

In the second quarter of 2011 challenger Sal Pace stayed close to representative Tipton in fundraising. Tipton raised \$146,000 compared to \$102,000 by his challenger Sal Pace. Of the \$146,000, \$90,000 was from Political Action Committee donations.

Tipton fell short on fundraising compared to Republicans Mike Coffman and Cory Gardner who each raised about \$600,000 so far this year, and Democrat Ed Perlmutter has raised \$500,000. [[Durango Herald, 7/18/11](#)]

## **Headline “His fundraising puts him on ‘losers’ list”**

The [Colorado Independent](#), noted the [Washington Post](#) rated Tipton’s fundraising quarter among it’s losers because he raised only half of what fellow freshman Cory Gardner. [[Colorado Independent, 7/18/11](#)]

## **Among 8 Freshman House Republicans Under \$150,000; Opponent Almost Outraised Him Despite Triple the Amount of Time**

In 2011, Tipton was declared among the “losers” of 2012 campaign fundraising so far in Washington Post scribe Chris Cillizza’s political blog. He was one of eight GOP freshman who raised less than \$150,000. Democratic state Rep. Sal Pace, who is challenging Tipton in 2012, raised about \$100,000 last quarter. But the state senator was raising money for just one month. Tipton’s total is from a period three times as long. [[Real Aspen, 7/19/11](#)]

## **Headline: Tipton Off to Lukewarm Start Raising Money**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton was off to a slow start raising money for his re-election. Tipton raised less than \$150,000 in the second quarter of 2011. Tipton insisted in a statement that he was doing fine on the fundraising front. “We are on pace to raise over a million dollars during this cycle, which is right where we want to be,” Tipton wrote. [[Associated Press, 7/18/11](#)]

## **Spent Over \$1,500 on Broadnet in 2006**

During his 2006 campaign, Tipton spent \$1,541 on “Broadnet Teleservices.” Tipton spent the money on April 4, 2006 on phones. [CQ Moneyline, accessed 6/29/11]

### **According to 2011 Disclosures, Tipton Ranked Richest Member of Colorado Congressional Delegation**

In 2011, according to financial filings, Tipton was listed as the richest member of the Colorado delegation. Tipton’s disclosed total assets in 2011 between \$3.2 million and \$8.7 million. According to the Denver Business Journal, “Tipton’s ranking will likely fall after the required financial filings are made by the three members of the delegation who asked for an extension” including Representatives Ed Perlmutter and Jared Polis, and Senator Mark Udall. [Denver Business Journal, [6/16/11](#)]

### **Took Large Check from Oil Interest**

On March 25, 2011 Tipton took \$2,500 from Mike Fattor, the owner of Western Petroleum. [VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

### **Received Over \$12,000 at Fundraiser for Being a Freshman Agricultural Republican Member**

On March 30, 2011 Tipton received \$12,787.13 from a Freshman Agricultural Republican Member fundraiser with Speaker Boehner. [Sunlight Foundation, [3/14/11](#); [VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

### **Publisher of Pueblo Chieftain Gave at Least \$2,500**

The publisher of the Pueblo Chieftain Robert Rawlings gave \$5,000 to Tipton. On March 28, 2011 Tipton’s FEC report showed two contributions from Robert Rawlings who listed his occupation as Publisher of the Pueblo Chieftain. [VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

*Note: The Pueblo Chieftain endorsed Salazar in 2010*

### **CO-03: VoteTipton.Com Campaign Account April Quarterly Report Analysis**

VoteTipton.Com Campaign Account April Quarterly Report Analysis

Total Raised: \$191,215.66

Raised from PACs: \$50,521.69

Cash on Hand: \$166,852.68

Debt: \$136,459

[VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

### **Took \$2,500 from Koch Industries**

On January 31, 2011 Tipton got a \$2,500 contribution from Koch Industries Inc Political Action Co. He put the money towards his 2010 General Election Debt Retirement. [VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

### **Tipton’s Opponent Sal Pace Criticized Him for Being \$110,000 In Debt**

In 2011, Tipton's opponent Sal Pace criticized him for being \$110,000 in debt. Tipton wrote "Here's a Tip — Don't Loan Scott Tipton Any Money"

"How would you feel if Scott Tipton owed you \$110,000? He has had enough money to pay off his campaign debt to a Colorado company for more than half a year, yet he has refused to," the Democrat said in his prepared statement. "With Congress having to address serious fiscal problems in America, how can we trust Scott Tipton to make good choices when he can't even balance his own budget?" [[Real Aspen, 10/19/11](#)]

### **Worth \$6.5 Million**

In 2011, the Colorado Independent reported that Tipton was worth \$6.5 million. [Colorado Independent, 11/17/11]

### **Claimed There was a Disconnect in DC Because People Talked About Next Vacation Home Or Car**

In 2011, Tipton claimed there was a disconnect in DC because people talked about their next vacation home or the car they wanted to buy. "My biggest disappointment has really been the disconnect of Washington with the real world," Tipton said. "I hear people here talking about their next vacation or the new car they want to buy. I have friends and family that have been laid off during this recession. It's disappointing." Tipton claimed he was a "small-business guy." [[Durango Herald, 12/10/11](#)]

### **Net Worth in 2009 was Over \$4 Million**

In 2009, Tipton's net worth was \$4,063,066- \$7,449,000. [2009 Financial Disclosure]

### **Net Worth in 2010 was Over \$2 Million**

In 2010, Tipton's net worth was \$2,912,072-\$10,018,000. [2010 Financial Disclosure]

### **Voted to End Public Financing of Presidential Campaigns**

In 2011, Tipton voted to end public financing to eligible presidential campaigns and to eliminate the Election Assistance Commission.

The bill terminated the public financing of presidential campaigns, which was funded by taxpayers voluntarily donating \$3 to the presidential primaries and general elections fund on their tax forms. The bill also terminated the Election Assistance Commission which was developed to help states modernize their voting equipment. [CQ Floor Votes 12/01/11; [Boston Globe, 12/02/11](#)]

The bill passed 235-190. [HR 3463, [Vote #873](#), 12/01/11]

## Constitutional Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Flip-flopped on 14<sup>th</sup> amendment arguments*
- ✓ *Voted against requiring PATRIOT Act provisions comply with constitution*
- ✓ *Said Congress should not try to “run” war...and then criticized President Obama for not involving Congress in Libya*
- ✓ *Did not believe healthcare was a constitutional right*
- ✓ *Supported Military Commissions Act to suspend writ of habeas corpus*

Over time, Tipton has been open to substantial changes to the U.S. Constitution. In discussions on the “birthright” citizenship within the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment, Tipton thought the possibility of revising (or removing) birthright citizenship was a “worthy” idea. However, by 2011, Tipton said that birthright citizenship was a settled issue and that he did not oppose birthright citizenship. Contrary to Tea Party ideology, Tipton voted for the PATRIOT Act, and against a provision that would require the PATRIOT Act to comply with the U.S. Constitution. In 2006, Tipton criticized Democrats in Congress for “running” the Iraq war, and said that Congress should never try to run war. However, in 2011, Tipton criticized the President and said that Congress should have a greater role in Libya. Tipton did not believe healthcare was a constitutional right. He also supported 2006 legislation that suspended the writ of habeas corpus.

### **Tipton: Revision of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment “Worthy of Discussion”**

In 2010, Tipton said that revisions to the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment were worth considering in order to prevent illegal immigration. He would not try to deport current citizens, but would look at changes for people yet to be born.

“I think that that’s (14<sup>th</sup> amendment revision) worthy of discussion,” Tipton said. [\[Durango Herald, 8/23/10\]](#)

### **Opposed Changes to the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment and Birthright Citizenship**

In January 2011, Tipton said on Hardball with Chris Matthews that birthright citizenship in America was a “settled question” and that he did not support changes to the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment.

MATTHEWS: Well, wait a minute. Wait a minute here. Are you for this taking away a person's citizenship if they're born here?

TIPTON: Taking away if they're born here?

MATTHEWS: Yes.

TIPTON: Obviously, no. That's a settled question. They're American citizens.

MATTHEWS: OK. So you're not against birth citizenship? You're not against—you're not going to change the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment? You're not one of those guys?

TIPTON: No. [MSNBC Hardball, [1/06/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Requiring PATRIOT Act Provisions Comply with Constitution**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have added language to the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 that would ensure complete compliance with the U.S. Constitution relating to access to business records, individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers and roving wiretaps.

In addition, it would require expedited review of federal civil proceedings for any allegations of violations of such rights.

The measure failed, 186-234. [HR 514, [Vote #35](#), 2/14/11]

### **Wanted to Change the Way Supreme Court Members are Appointed**

In a 2010 Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, Tipton said that he wanted to change the way Supreme Court members are appointed “with assurances that [the] constitution is upheld as our founders designed it.” [Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Supported Military Commissions Act to Suspended Writ of Habeas Corpus**

In 2006, Tipton supported the 2006 Military Commissions Act, which suspended the writ habeas corpus for alien enemy combatants engaged in plots against the United States.

Tipton went to say that his support of the legislation was to give troops a clearer boundary in executing their mission.

“I believe our troops deserve clear and definable boundaries in order to execute their mission,” he said. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 9/15/06]

### **Suspension of Habeas Corpus Ruled Unconstitutional**

In 2006, the provision of the Military Commission Act that suspended writ of Habeas Corpus was ruled unconstitutional and removed from the legislation. [Supreme Court Opinion, [6/12/08](#)]

## **MCA Reduced the Number of Crimes on Which Enemies Could Be Prosecuted**

In 2006, Tipton supported The Military Commissions Act of 2006, which reduced the number of crimes that combatants could be charged.

Before MCA, any crime against the Common Article 3 of the Geneva Convention could be tried. After MCA, crimes were limited it to torture, cruel or inhuman treatment, murder, mutilation, rape, sexual assault and taking of hostages. [CRS Report, [8/11/09](#)]

## **MCA Eliminated Right to A Speedy Trial**

In 2006, Tipton supported MCA, which eliminated the right to a speedy trial for alien combatants. [CRS Report, [8/11/09](#)]

## **Said Congress Should Not Try to “Run” War**

In 2006, Tipton, in reference to Congress’ role in Iraq, said that Congress should only serve as support to the President and the Defense Department.

“Trying to run the war, much like Congress did in Vietnam, and tying the hands of our military commanders is something that Congress needs to avoid at all costs,” he said. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 9/18/06]

## **Opposed Libya Intervention Because the President Didn’t Consult Congress**

In 2011, Tipton’s main criticism of President Obama was the way he went about getting involved in action in Libya.

“If the president, perhaps, had taken the opportunity to explain this to Congress and to the American people, there may have been a possibility that we would have been supportive of this, but not under these circumstances. The President took it upon himself. I think it’s an overreach of executive power. He should have come to the Congress and the American people first.” [Interview with Fox Business News, 3/28/11]

## **Voted to Prohibit the Use of Ground Forces in Libya**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill that would prohibit the President from deploying United State military personnel to Libya for any reason other than to rescue a member of the Armed Forces from “imminent danger.”

The resolution passed, 268-145. [H. Res 292, [Vote #411](#), 6/03/11]

## **Did Not Believe the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment Was Good for America**

In 2010, Tipton answered “No” to the question “Do you believe the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment (the right for Senators to be popularly elected) was a good thing for America?” The question was part of the Southern Colorado Patriots Club Questionnaire. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **...But Didn't Mean to Say That**

In 2010, Tipton later said he did not mean to mark a “no” answer to the 17th Amendment question.

“If I did that, it was contrary to what I intended. I support the 17th Amendment, and I want citizens to have the right to vote,” Tipton said by phone. [ColoradoPols.com, 9/17/10]

### **Believed Affordable Care Act Was Unconstitutional**

In 2010, Tipton said that he agreed with Colorado Attorney General John Suthers that the legislation was unconstitutional and should be overturned in the federal courts. [Pueblo Chieftain, 10/29/10]

### **Did Not Believe Healthcare was a Constitutional Right**

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered “no” when asked if health care was a constitutional right. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Called for Dismantling NSA Telephone Surveillance Program**

In May 2006, Tipton called for the dismantling of the National Security Agency’s telephone surveillance program. The program was part of a data-mining operation in which the National Security Agency tracks millions of phone calls made in the United States in search of patterns officials said are intended to tip them off to terrorist activity.

“We better pull the plug on this, and we better do it now,” Tipton said. [Daily Sentinel, 5/12/06]

### **Voted to Allow for Library Activity Surveillance**

In 2011, Tipton voted against prohibiting funds in the Republicans’ continuing resolution to be used under a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) order requiring the production of library circulation records, library patron lists, book sales or book customer lists.

The amendment was rejected, 196-231. [HR 1, Nadler amendment #524, Vote #95, [2/18/11](#)]

### **Promised to Co-sponsor the Enumerated Powers Act**

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered “yes” when asked if he would co-sponsor the Enumerated Powers Act. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

#### **Enumerated Powers Act Defined**

The Enumerated Powers Act would require legislation to “contain a concise and definite statement of the constitutional authority” empowering Congress to enact it. [Enumerated Powers Act, H.R. 1359, 110th Congress]

## Consumer Issues

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Voted against legislation requiring mortgage companies to have a license*
- ✓ *Voted to shutdown emergency mortgage program for Veterans*
- ✓ *Voted to remove protections on food, toys and drinking waters*
- ✓ *Opposed Creating Task Force on Poverty Reduction*

**Scott Tipton voted to end a program that would help individuals whose homes were at risk of foreclosure from being forced from their homes. He opposed a similar program that applied to U.S. war veterans. Tipton voted to remove consumer protections on food, children's toys, and drinking water. He also opposed the creation of a task force that would find ways to reduce poverty.**

### **Voted Against Legislation Requiring Mortgage Companies to Have a License**

In May 2010, Tipton voted against a bill that would require mortgage companies to register with the state of Colorado.

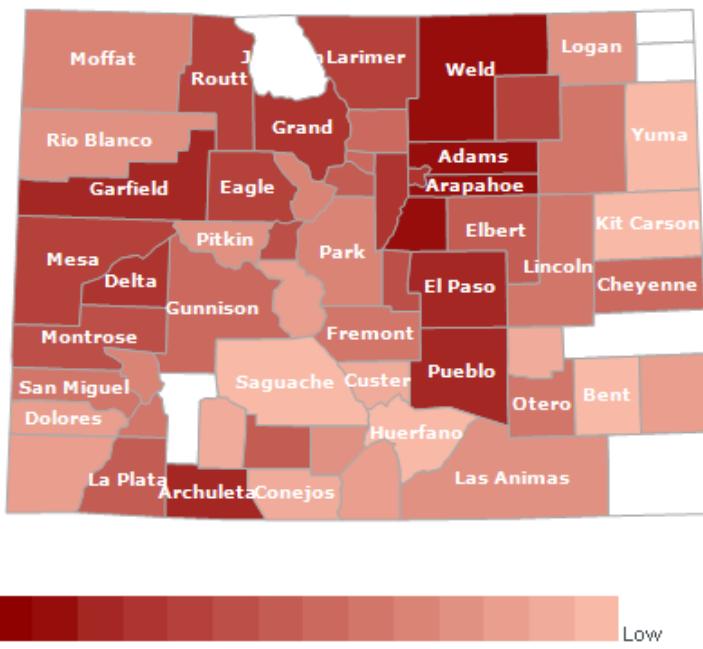
The bill established a board of mortgage loan originators appointed by the Governor. The board would create the rules regarding mortgage lending. The board would protect homebuyers from mortgage companies that had inactive licenses, did not meet insurance requirements, and rule violators. [HB10-1141; House Journal Page 1616, 5/04/10]

### **Colorado Ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in the U.S. for Home Foreclosures**

In 2010, Colorado was ranked tenth in the country for having the highest number of home foreclosures in the nation. [realtytrac.com, [1/12/11](#)]

### **Home Foreclosure in Colorado by County**

Below is a map of home foreclosures in Colorado by county. [realtytrac.com, [1/12/11](#)]



[Realtytrac.com, [accessed 7/10/11](#)]

*Note: Exact numbers can be taken from Realty Trac's website.*

### Voted to Shut Down Emergency Mortgage Relief Program

In 2011, Tipton voted to shut down a program that provided emergency loans to unemployed homeowners facing foreclosure. The legislation would end the Emergency Homeowner Loan Program and rescind the unobligated funds.

The White House said it would veto the bill, saying that the program was needed to spur a housing recovery. The White House argued that that the loan assistance could help as many as 30,000 distressed homeowners. The CBO estimated that the program would cost \$840 million over 10 years. [CQ Today, 3/11/11]

The bill passed, 242-177. [HR 836, [Vote #174](#), 3/11/11]

### Voted Against Even Protecting Veterans and Active Service Members

Before considering terminating the emergency relief program, Tipton voted against a measure that would have protected veterans and active service members from foreclosures.

The measure required the Secretary of HUD in consultation with the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs, to determine the amount necessary to provide assistance under the Emergency Housing Act of 1975 to homeowners who are veterans or members of the Armed Forces on active duty. It would also authorize Congress to appropriate this amount of assistance to veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty under the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program.

The motion failed, 182-238. [HR 836, [Vote #173](#), 3/11/11]

### **Voted to Remove Protections on Food, Toys and Drinking Water**

In February 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have required Congressional committees to place a high priority on tracking, reviewing and preserving the standards that ensure the safety of the food and drinking water supply, and the safety of children's toys.

"This is and should be an essential function of our nation's government," said motion sponsor Representative Russ Carnahan, D-Mo. [CQ Today, 2/11/11]

The motion failed, 178-242. [HR 72, [Vote #32](#), 2/11/11]

### **Voted to Shut Down Mortgage Aid Program**

In 2011, Tipton voted to shut down a federal program established to help homeowners who owe more than their homes are worth refinance their loans. A borrower current on his mortgage would qualify for a Federal Housing Administration (FHA) refinanced loan given that the lender wrote off at least percent of the unpaid mortgage principal.

The bill rescinded all unobligated funds allocated for the program under the 2008 financial industry bailout. The House adopted an amendment to direct those funds to be used to pay down the national debt.

Republicans argued that since only \$50 million of the \$8 billion obligated had been used, the program was ineffective. Others protested that the program was poorly advertised and had not had a chance to reach needy homeowners. [[Las Vegas Sun](#), 3/09/11]

The bill passed, 256-171. [HR 830, [Vote #171](#), 3/10/11]

### **Voted Against Protecting Senior Homeowners from Being Served Foreclosure Notices**

In March 2011, before considering the mortgage aid program, Tipton voted against a measure that would have required the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to determine the amount necessary – and appropriate that amount – to provide assistance under the FHA Refinance Program to senior homeowners.

The motion failed, 185-243. [HR 830, [Vote #170](#), 3/10/11]

### **Opposed Creating Task Force on Poverty Reduction**

In 2009, Tipton voted against creating a task force on poverty reduction consisting of ten members of the General Assembly.

The task force was required to assess policies and practices that promoted economic opportunity and poverty reduction and make recommendations to the Legislative Council. Their comprehensive plan was

to reduce poverty by at least 50 percent and to study related issues of nutrition, employment and self-sufficiency. [HB09-1064 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/18/09]

The bill passed the House, 42-23. [HB09-1064, House Journal page 586, 3/03/09]

### **Voted Against Providing Foreclosure Aid Relief for Rural Homeowners**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have required states give priority emphasis and consideration to rural areas when distributing Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds that were allocated by HUD and appropriated under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

The motion failed, 153-272. [HR 861, [Vote #187](#), 2/16/11]

### **Voted to Keep Vital Consumer Product Information from Consumers**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would bar funds related to launching the Consumer Product Safety Information Database established under the Consumer Product Safety Act and signed into law by President George Bush.

According to the [Wichita Eagle](#), the amendment offered by Representative Mike Pompeo, would delay the site to make changes that Pompeo and the business community would prefer. One of Pompeo's changes would be to make it harder for consumer groups and lawyers to submit product complaints. [[Wichita Eagle](#), 3/07/11]

The amendment was adopted, 234-187. [HR 1, Pompeo amendment #545, [Vote #137](#), 2/19/11]

### **Voted Against Measures to Encourage Building Cost-Effective, Solar Energy Homes**

In 2009, Tipton voted against encouraging the construction of new homes that make cost-effective use of solar energy.

The bill required homebuilders to offer prospective homebuyers the opportunity to have the residence's electrical or plumbing system use solar energy, plan for future upgrades to such systems, or plan to ease the future installation of necessary wiring for such systems.

In addition, homebuilders would be required to provide buyers with a list of solar installers who can assess the home's solar energy generation potential. [HB09-1149 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 5/08/09]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 48-16. [HB08-1149, House Journal page 1131, 4/09/09]

### **Voted Against Affordable Housing, Foreclosure Measures**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill creating the Housing Development Grant Fund and authorizing the Division of Housing to solicit and expend funds to preserve or expand affordable housing. The bill would also allow the fund to finance foreclosure prevention activities.

The division coordinated the state's affordable housing efforts, fostering cooperation between private enterprise and public agencies. [HB09-1213 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/04/09; Associated Press, 2/03/09]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 46-18. [HB09-1213, House Journal page 1211, 4/15/09]

### **Said He was Ready to Deliver Colorado TV from Denver to Coloradans**

Tipton said he was prepared to introduce legislation to ensure that Colorado residents got TV from Colorado rather than New Mexico. [Durango Herald, 2/21/11]

### **Said Growth and Prosperity Came from Private Sector**

Tipton touted Economic Enrichment Network in Mesa County saying "If we're going to see true growth and prosperity in this country, it will be coming out of the private sector. It's going to be these common sense entrepreneurial ideas." [[KJCT8.com](#), 2/3/11]

### **Wealth Gap Seen As Growing Problem**

In 2012, Occupy protesters presented Tipton with a list of demands. Occupy Grand Junction member, Eric Niederkruger says, "There's an awful lot of people who are having a lot of hard economic times." The Pew Research survey shows that the income gap is now seen as a bigger source of conflict in the US than race, age or national origin. [[kjct8.com](#), [1/17/12](#)]

### **Stayed in Cortez Colorado Where He was Born and Raised; Started Mesa Verde Indian Pottery Company**

Tipton was born and raised in Cortez, Colo., he graduated from high school in Cortez and went to Ft. Lewis College in Durango where he studied Political Science. He then moved back to Cortez and co-founded Mesa Verde Indian Pottery. He met his wife Jean through his job and they were married for 26 years in 2001. He has two daughters Leslie and Elizabeth. [Politico, accessed [3/4/11](#)]

### **Had Concerns about the Stop Online Piracy Act**

In 2012, Tipton said he had concerns about the Stop Online Piracy Act. "I have concerns that the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) in its current form... needs additional work." [[kjct8.com](#), [1/18/12](#)]

### **Tipton Attempted to Change TV Market Lines**

A portion of Rep. Tipton's district in southwest Colorado receives television from New Mexico rather than Colorado, meaning that they watch New Mexico news, weather, sports and emergency alerts on television.

Tipton met with two FCC officials to discuss moving the counties out of the designated market area that includes Albuquerque. He also said he plans to introduce legislation to solve the issue, which would be a companion to legislation planned by Sen. Michael Bennet of Colorado. [Associated Press, 1/24/11]

## **Voted Against Cutting Community Service Block Grants by \$100 Million**

In 2011, Tipton voted against cutting Community Service Block Grant programs by \$100 million.

The amendment was rejected, 115-316. [HR 1, Flake amendment #457, [Vote #72](#), 2/17/11]

## **Voted Against Banning Airlines from Gouging their Customers**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an amendment to the FAA Reauthorization bill which would require airlines to provide better information relating to baggage fees and to refund baggage fees if the luggage was lost, damaged or delayed.

The amendment, offered by Rep. Capuano, would have required airlines to refund any luggage fees charged for bags checked within 60 days of the flight and if the baggage was lost, delayed, or damaged. It would also require airlines and ticket vendors to disclose the cost associated with checking luggage when the price of the ticket was first quoted. [Congressional Record, [3/31/11](#)]

The amendment failed 187-235. [HR 658, [Vote #211](#), 3/31/11]

## **Voted to Eliminate Critical Funding for Rural Airports**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which reduced funding levels for the FAA and ended the Essential Air Service (EAS) program which provides critical funding for rural airports (except in Alaska and Hawaii).

The legislation would end the EAS program on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 (except in Hawaii and Alaska). In 2010 the EAS program served about 150 rural communities across the country. According to the non-partisan Congressional Research Service (CRS), three communities in the state would be impacted by the termination of the EAS program. [CRS Report, [R41666](#), 3/03/11; CQ BillAnalysis, [6/07/11](#)]

The bill passed 223-196. [HR 658, [Vote #220](#), 3/29/11]

## **Voted Against Prioritizing American Inventors**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which moved patents to be developed and produced in America to the front of the approval line.

The motion would have required the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to prioritize patents which pledge to develop or manufacture their products in the United States. The motion would also deny this prioritization to nationals of countries that deny adequate and effective protection for patent rights or fair and equitable access for persons that rely on patent protection. [CQ Floor Votes, [6/23/11](#)]

The motion failed 172-251. [HR 1249, [Vote #490](#), 6/23/11]

## **Voted to Undermine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau**

In 2011, Tipton voted to limit the effectiveness of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB).

The legislation would limit the effectiveness of the CFPB, a bureau created by the Dodd-Frank financial regulatory bill, which “has the authority to regulate financial markets in ways meant to improve consumer protection”. The CFPB, which had a single director, would instead have a five-member board. This legislation would also change the two-thirds majority vote by the Financial Stability Oversight Council to override a CFPB decision to just a simple majority. [[The Hill, 7/21/11](#); [Washington Post, 7/22/11](#)]

The bill passed 241-173. [HR 1315, [Vote #621](#), 7/21/11]

### **Voted to Terminate Redevelopment Assistance for Communities with High Foreclosure Rates**

In 2011, Tipton voted to terminate redevelopment assistance for communities with high foreclosure rates.

The bill rescinded the third round of funding for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program and ended the program run by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. According to [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#), the Neighborhood Stabilization Program was “designed to acquire foreclosed homes in at-risk neighborhoods, rehab them, and sell them to qualified buyers.” [[Philadelphia Inquirer, 3/12/11](#); CQ Floor Votes, 3/16/11]

The bill passed 242-182. [HR 861, [Vote #188](#), 3/16/11]

### **Voted Against Protecting Consumers from Predatory Lending, Financial Fraud**

In 2011, Tipton voted against banning individuals convicted of financial fraud from advertising or soliciting non-publicly traded securities.

The motion would have continued to ban advertising or general solicitation for non-publicly traded securities from individuals if they had been “convicted of fraud in connection with a financial transaction including predatory lending to a veteran.” [CQ Floor Votes, 11/03/11; Congressional Record, 11/03/11]

The motion failed 190-236. [HR 2940, [Vote #827](#), 11/03/11]

### **Voted Against Protecting Government’s Authority to Issue Recalls of Contaminated Foods**

In 2011, Tipton voted against protecting the government’s authority to issue mandatory recalls of suspected contaminated foods.

The amendment would have stipulated that nothing in the bill would have hindered the Food and Drug Administration’s authority to issue mandatory recalls of suspected contaminated foods. [CQ Floor Votes, 12/01/11]

The amendment failed 188-233. [HR 527, [Vote #878](#), 12/01/11]

### **Voted to Require Agencies to Choose the Least Costly Option**

In 2011, Tipton voted to require agencies to choose the least costly regulation when writing new regulations.

The bill required agencies to choose the least costly regulations when writing new regulations for businesses unless they could explain the reason for choosing a more expensive rule was “in the interest of public health and welfare.” [CQ Today, 12/02/11]

The bill passed 253-167. [HR 3010, [Vote #888](#), 12/02/11]

Before passage of the final bill, Tipton voted against a motion which would have kept the bill from interfering with rules created by the Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services and Veterans Affairs to negotiate lower prescription drug prices. [CQ Floor Votes, 12/02/11]

The motion failed 186-233. [HR 3010, [Vote #887](#), 12/02/11]

### **Voted to Increase Bureaucratic Inefficiency in Agency Rule-Making**

In 2011, Tipton voted to increase bureaucratic inefficiency by requiring Congressional approval of major agency rules.

The bill would require the United States Congress to approve agency rules if they would have an annual impact of more than \$100 million dollars or “would cause a major increase in costs or prices, or would have a significant adverse effect on competition employment, investment, productivity, innovation or U.S. economic competitiveness.” [CQ Floor Votes, 12/07/11]

The bill passed 241-184. [HR 10, [Vote #901](#), 12/07/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion exempting country of origin labeling rules from the bill. [CQ Floor Votes, 12/07/11]

The motion failed 183-235. [HR 10, [Vote #900](#), 12/07/11]

### **Crime and Public Safety Issues**

#### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Voted against funding firefighter, first responder assistance*
- ✓ *Voted against funding for AMBER alerts in public broadcasting*

**Scott Tipton voted against increased funding for FEMA that would go to first responders and firefighters, even though he founded a non-profit organization that was designed to help first responders and firefighters. Tipton also voted against funding AMBER alerts in public broadcasting.**

### **Voted Against Funding Firefighter, First Responder Assistance**

In 2011, Tipton voted against increased funding for FEMA firefighter assistance grants by \$510 million. The amendment specified that \$390 million be available for firefighter assistance grants and \$420 million be available for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants.

The amendment passed, 318-113. [HR 1, Pascrell amendment #223, Vote #60, [2/16/11](#)]

### **...But Founded an Organization to Help Firefighters and First Responders**

In 1998, Scott Tipton was a founding board member of the 100 Club of Montezuma County.  
[Colorado Secretary of State Records for 100 Club of Montezuma County, accessed 5/31/11]

### **Created to Aid Law Enforcement, Fire and Rescue Personnel**

Under the “purpose” section of the articles of incorporation for 100 Club of Montezuma County, it cites that it “may provide assistance to families of area law enforcement, fire or emergency rescue personnel, in times of need or distress; may offer education scholarships to area law enforcement, fire or emergency rescue personnel or their family members.”  
[Colorado Secretary of State Records for 100 Club of Montezuma County, accessed 5/31/11]

Montezuma County's 100 Club was “an organization dedicated to providing for the families of our first responders who are injured or killed in the line of duty.” [[The Denver Post](#), 10/29/06]

## **Tipton Voted To Cut Food Safety**

On June 16, 2011, Tipton voted for an agriculture appropriations bill that cut funds for food safety. According to the Washington Post, “House Republicans cut millions of dollars Thursday from the Food and Drug Administration’s budget, denying the agency money to implement landmark food safety laws approved by the last Congress. Saying the cuts were needed to lower the national deficit, the House also reduced funding to the Agriculture Department’s food safety inspection service, which oversees meat, poultry and some egg products.” It passed by a vote of 217- 203. [HR 2112, Vote #[459](#), 6/16/11; Washington Post, [6/16/11](#)]

### **Tipton Voted Against Increased Food Safety Funding**

In 2011, Tipton voted against increased food safety funding. The amendment would have increased funding for the “Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition by \$1 million. It would be offset by specified reductions in other accounts.” It was rejected by a vote of 193-226. [H R 2112, Vote #[420](#), 6/15/11; CQ, 6/15/11]

### **Tipton Voted Against Food Safety Funding**

In 2011, Tipton voted against food safety funding. The amendment would have increased funding for “salaries and expenses at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) by \$49 million and offset the costs of the increase by reducing five Department of Agriculture accounts by a total of the same amount.” It was rejected by a vote of 178-241. [H R 2112, Vote #[440](#), 6/15/11; CQ, 6/15/11]

## **Tipton Voted for an Amendment to Reduce Funding to Educate Americans on the Dangers of Smoking**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would have reduced funding to educate Americans on the dangers of smoking. The amendment would have reduced “funding for the Center for Tobacco Products in the Office of Regulatory Affairs at the Food and Drug Administration by \$392 million.” It would transfer the funds to the bill’s spending reduction account.” It was rejected by a vote of 164-257. [Center for Tobacco Products, accessed, [6/17/11](#); H R 2112, Vote #[436](#), 6/15/11; CQ, 6/15/11]

## **Voted Against Funding for AMBER Alerts in Public Broadcasting**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure to ensure that National Public Radio would still be able to receive federal funding to broadcast or disseminate emergency AMBER Alerts regarding abducted children.

According to the DOJ’s AMBER Alert website, there have been 532 successful recoveries with 120 total Amber Alert plans nationwide. In calendar year 2009, 207 AMBER Alerts were issued in the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands involving 263 children. Of those 207 cases, 166 resulted in a recovery, 45 of which were successfully recovered as a direct result of those respective AMBER Alerts being issued. [Department of Justice, AMBER Alert statistics; 2009 AMBER Alert report]

Representative Button Sutton, who introduced the motion, said in her floor remarks that National Public Radio, which the Republicans sought to defund, was a disseminator of the alerts via an arrangement with the Department of Justice. [Representative Sutton Floor Remarks, 3/17/11]

The motion failed, 184-235. [HR 1076, [Vote #191](#), 3/17/11]

Tipton then voted to prohibit federal money from being used to fund or purchase content from National Public Radio. [HR 1076, [Vote #192](#), 3/17/11]

## **Voted to Cut Drug Intelligence Money, Fire Hundreds**

In 2011, Tipton voted to zero-out funding for the National Drug Intelligence Center by striking \$34 million in funding.

The NDIC, which employed hundreds in Johnstown, PA, was established by the late Representative John Murtha, but criticized for being a “pet project.”

Representative Mark Critz countered that there was a “misperception” that the NDIC duplicated work by other agencies. He said there was a “basic misunderstanding regarding the types of drug intelligence.” The Center’s document and media exploitation service supported federal prosecutors in drug cases. [[Tribune-Democrat](#), 2/16/11]

The amendment passed, 262-169. [HR 1, Flake amendment #368, [Vote #51](#), 2/16/11]

## **Voted to Cut COPS Funding by \$600 Million**

In 2011, Tipton voted against restoring funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program at the Justice Department by \$298 million. The funds came from decreasing the same amount from cross-agency support at NASA.

Cuts under the Republicans' original continuing resolution plan totaled some \$600 million.

Amendment sponsor Representative Anthony Weiner acknowledged he was "taking from one place to give to another. But I do believe it's in the interest of all of us to try to set these priorities straight." [Politico, 2/16/11]

The amendment passed, 228-203. [HR 1, Weiner amendment #125 as modified, Vote #53, [2/16/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Cell Phone, Texting Safety for Drivers**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill prohibiting the use of cell phones by persons under 18 years old while driving and prohibits text messaging by any driver.

The violation would be a Class A traffic infraction and carried a \$50 penalty for the first offense, \$100 for a second offense and subsequent offenses, and three points. [2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed as amended, 39-25. [HB09-1094, House Journal page 1101, 4/08/09]

### **Voted against adding Additional Air Marshals to High Risk Flights**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion to recommit which changed the union-representation ballots rules for rail and airline employees.

The motion would have required the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, to deploy federal air marshals on the highest risk passenger flights.

The motion failed 184-235. [HR 658, [Vote #219](#), 3/29/11]

## **Voted to Defund the National Drug Intelligence Center**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment which defunded the National Drug Intelligence Center.

The amendment defunded the National Drug Intelligence Center in Johnstown, PA. The National Drug Intelligence Center is run and funded by the Department of Justice. [The Tribune-Democrat, 3/26/11]

The amendment passed 246-172. [HR 1540, [Vote #355](#), 5/26/11]

## **Voted Against Prioritizing Drug-Trafficking Crime Prevention**

In 2011, Tipton voted against directing the heads of each intelligence agency to prioritize countering transnational drug-trafficking and drug-related crime and violence. [CQ Floor Votes, 9/09/11]

The motion failed 145-257. [HR 1892, [Vote #697](#), 9/09/11]

## **Voted to Override State Laws Regarding Concealed Carry of Guns**

In 2011, Tipton voted to require states that allow concealed-carry permits to recognize the conceal-carry permits issued by other states.

According to Bloomberg News, “the measure...would grant permit reciprocity across every state except Illinois, the District of Columbia and two territories, which all ban concealed weapons.” The measure would not cover machine guns or other “destructive devices.”

Rep. Carolyn McCarthy of New York called the bill “anticommunity, antisafety and antipolice,” noting that it would require states with strong gun safety laws “to allow out-of-state visitors, potentially as young as 18, to walk down our streets armed and dangerous.” [Bloomberg News, 11/17/11]

The bill passed 272-154. [HR 822, [Vote #852](#), 11/16/11]

### **...Even Allowed Concealed Weapons for Stalkers and Abusers**

Tipton even voted against a motion that prevented the forced recognition if the permit carrier had been convicted of a sex offense against a minor; had a restraining order for harassing, stalking or threatening loved ones, partners or the children of partners; or if the attorney general had determined them suspected to be, engaged in, or supported terrorism. [CQ Floor Votes, 11/17/11]

The motion failed 161-263. [HR 822, [Vote #851](#), 11/16/11]

## **Debt Ceiling**

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Ran a TV ad criticizing Salazar for voting to raise the debt limit*
- ✓ *Backed Speaker Boehner's plan to increase the debt limit*
- ✓ *Would be willing to raise debt ceiling if Congress were to make cuts*
- ✓ *Voted against debt ceiling compromise between party leaders*

**Scott Tipton criticized Ken Salazar in 2010 for voting to raise the debt limit. However, by 2010, Tipton said he would only be willing to raise the debt ceiling as long as it were tied to budget cuts.**

#### **Ran a TV Ad Criticizing Salazar for Voting to Raise the Debt Limit**

In 2010, Tipton ran a TV ad against Salazar that criticized him for voting to raise the U.S. debt limit.

“He voted to increase the debt limit to a staggering \$14 trillion, even with Colorado's skyrocketing unemployment,” said the ad. [ColoradoPols.com, 11/22/10]

#### **Backed Speaker Boehner’s Plan to Increase the Debt Limit**

In 2011, Tipton backed Speaker Boehner’s plan to increase the debt ceiling, saying it wasn’t perfect, but that “we can no longer allow the Senate and the president to hold the American people captive.”

“We do not raise taxes on hard-working Americans. ... Families are struggling, businesses are having a hard time. We have to get this economy moving,” said Tipton. [[Denver Post](#), 7/28/11]

#### **Voted Against Debt Ceiling Compromise Between Party Leaders**

In 2011, Tipton was part of a handful of congressman who voted against the debt ceiling deal between Democrat and Republican leaders. Tipton was originally a supporter of Speaker Boehner’s efforts to broker a deal as it concerns the debt limited, but later suggested that debt deal was too “vague” for him to support it.

“I cannot authorize a record \$2.4 trillion in additional deficit spending without taking larger steps in fixing the underlying problem [...] the plan we considered in the House today missed that mark, leaving \$400 billion in cuts up in the air that were otherwise guaranteed in the Boehner plan that I supported (last week),” Tipton said. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/2/11]

#### **Would be Willing to Raise Debt Ceiling if Congress Were to Make Cuts**

In February 2011, Tipton, discussing the federal budget with Western Slope legislators, said that he would be willing to vote to raise the debt-ceiling limit if Congress was to make significant cuts to the budget.

“For me to be able to vote for raising the debt ceiling, we are going to have to be sure we are making substantial cuts,” Tipton told the group of Western Slope legislators at the state Capitol. “We have to slow down - not slow down, we have to start reducing - the size of the federal government.” [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/03/11]

### **Raising the Debt Limit without Reductions is “Unpalatable”**

In June 2011, Tipton said that it was not possible to raise the debt limit without corresponding cuts to the budget.

“We all understand that 14.3 trillion in debt is simply unsustainable,” said Tipton. “It’s completely unpalatable to say we are not going to make corresponding reductions based on how much we have to raise the debt.” [[Durango Herald](#), 6/02/11]

### **Voted Against an Increase to the Debt Limit**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a bill that would increase the statutory debt limit by \$2.406 trillion to \$16.7 trillion. [CQ Floor Votes, 5/31/11]

The bill failed under suspended rules, 97-318. [HR 1954, [Vote #379](#), 5/31/11]

### **Voted Against a Clean Debt Ceiling Raise**

In 2011, Tipton voted against raising the statutory debt limit, sometimes referred to as the debt ceiling to \$16.7 trillion dollars.

The bill was brought under suspension of the rules, requiring a two-thirds vote, to ensure its failure. The debt limit had to be raised prior to August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011, when the United States would default according to Treasury Secretary Timothy F. Geithner. According to the Republican House Ways and Means Chairman, Dave Camp, said the vote was to prove that “the American people” want Congress to tackle the debt crisis before they raise the debt limit. Additional debt ceiling increases were proposed, and eventually passed later, but as part of a larger bill including budget cuts instead of just a bill which deals solely with the debt ceiling. [[Boston Globe](#), 5/31/11; [USA Today](#), 6/01/11; [Washington Post](#), 6/01/11]

The bill failed 97-318. [HR 1954, [Vote #379](#), 5/31/11]

### **Voted for Cut, Cap and Balance Plan to Hold Debt Limit Hostage**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which only raised the debt limit if there were cuts to the federal budget, caps on federal spending and Congress passed a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

The bill would have cut \$111 billion from the federal budget, except for Medicare, Social Security and defense programs, in Fiscal Year 2012. The bill would have also capped federal spending at “21.7 percent of GDP for 2013, 20.8 for 2014, 20.2 for 2015, 20.1 for 2016, 19.9 for 2017, 19.7 for 2018, and 19.9 percent for 2019 through 2021”. Lastly the bill would have required the passage of a balanced budget amendment before the debt limit would be raised. [[Washington Post](#), 7/19/11; [New York Times](#), 7/19/11; [The Hill](#), 7/15/11]

The bill passed 234-190. [HR 2560, [Vote #606](#), 7/19/11]

### **Voted to Increase the Debt Ceiling**

In 2011, Tipton voted to increase the debt ceiling as part of passing the Budget Control Act.

The bill allowed for a debt ceiling increase of \$900 billion (\$400 billion would be automatic and \$500 billion would be subject to a vote of disapproval) in exchange for a cap that would reduce government spending by \$917 billion from FY 2012 through 2021. The bill would also create a bipartisan, bicameral committee to find an additional \$1.8 trillion in cuts. There would be an additional \$1.6 trillion debt ceiling increase if Congress agreed to the cuts from the committee and passed a balanced-budget constitutional amendment. [CQ Floor Votes, 7/29/11; [New York Times](#), [7/29/11](#); CRS, [10/5/11](#)]

According to the [Buffalo News](#):

[The bill] would immediately increase the nation's debt limit by \$900 billion in tandem with \$917 billion in budget cuts over 10 years. The second step of the debt ceiling increase would come in six months -- but only in the unlikely event that two-thirds of the House and Senate approve a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution. [[Buffalo News](#), [7/30/11](#)]

The bill passed 218-210. [S. 627, [Vote #677](#), 7/29/11]

### **Voted Against Raising the Debt Limit**

In 2011, Tipton voted against raising the debt ceiling.

The bill, which was brought up under suspension of the rules and would have required a two-thirds vote to pass, would have raised the debt ceiling by \$1.2 trillion, \$784 billion of which could be stopped by a resolution of disapproval. An additional \$1.2 trillion would be available for the debt ceiling increase but would be subject to a resolution of disapproval. The bill would also set spending caps for FY2012-2021 to reduce spending by about \$840 billion. A bipartisan, bicameral committee would also be created to suggest ways to reduce the deficit to 3 percent of GDP. [CQ Floor Votes, 7/30/11]

The bill failed 173-246. [HR 2693, [Vote #682](#), 7/30/11]

### **Voted Against \$500 Billion Increase in the Debt Ceiling**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a \$500 billion increase in the debt ceiling.

The bill was a disapproval of the \$500 billion increase in the debt ceiling which was authorized under the debt ceiling agreement which passed on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. In order for the increase to not go into effect the disapproval bill would have to pass both the House and the Senate and be signed into law. According to Congressional Quarterly Weekly “164 House Republicans – plus two Democrats – voted to disapprove a debt ceiling increase after having vote Aug. 1 to permit it. [...] this was just a paramount example of the

political game that lawmakers play when they want things both ways.” [CQ Floor Votes, 9/14/11; Congressional Quarterly Weekly, 9/17/11]

The bill passed 232-186-2. [HJ Res 77, Vote #706, 9/14/11]

## Defense/Military Personnel/ Veterans Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Wanted to cut defense spending*
- ✓ *Voted to end a program that would help prevent veterans and active service members from foreclosure*
- ✓ *Voted to make veterans benefits harder to get*
- ✓ *Accused the military of building jets they did not need*

**Scott Tipton voted to end a program that was designed to help prevent home foreclosure for active duty and veteran military personnel. Additionally, he cast a vote that made it even more difficult for veterans to receive their benefits. When it come to military spending, Tipton was open to cutting military spending and accused the military of building jets that they did not need.**

### Tipton: “You Bet” I Would Cut Defense Spending

In 2011, Tipton said that he would like to cut defense spending on the condition that his family was not brought into the discussion.

When asked if he would vote to cut defense spending Tipton said “you bet. As long as other people don’t try to bring my family into issues. I’ve got a son – in – law in the Air Force who points out a variety of areas where there could be efficiencies.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/07/11](#)]

### Tipton: Military Building Jets “They Didn’t Want”

In 2011, Scott Tipton accused the military of deciding to build jets that they didn’t want because of earmarks from Congressmen.

“We are building some jets that the military said they didn’t want. But they were being built, because congressmen through earmarks were able to demand that they be built; that’s wrong. We all want to make sure that, for certain, we are providing our men and women that are in harms way, everything that they need to be able to be as safe as they possibly can and that we give them the necessary comforts that they need while they are out in the field.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

### Voted Against Protecting Veterans and Active Service Members from Foreclosure

In 2011, before considering terminating an emergency mortgage relief program for Americans facing foreclosure, Tipton voted against a measure that would have protected veterans and active service members from foreclosures.

The measure required the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, in consultation with the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs, to determine the amount necessary to provide assistance under the Emergency Housing Act of 1975 to homeowners who are veterans or members of the Armed Forces on active duty. It would also authorize Congress to appropriate this amount of assistance to veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty under the Emergency Mortgage Relief Program.

The motion failed, 182-238. [HR 836, [Vote #173](#), 3/11/11]

### **Voted to Make Benefits for Low-Income Veterans Harder to Get**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would make it harder for low-income veterans and Social Security recipients to retain counsel in a civil action against the United States, like when fighting for benefits.

The Lummis amendment imposed a seven-month moratorium on all legal fees paid under the Equal Access to Justice Act, a Reagan-era law designed to help people afford an attorney while suing the government.

“We’re in the middle of two wars right now and to make it harder for a veteran — fighting for his benefits — to have an attorney is a horrible thing. That’s not what this country is about,” Robert Chishold, a prominent veterans’ law attorney said. [[Politico](#), 2/23/11]

The amendment passed, 232-197. [HR 1, Lummis amendment #195, Vote #85, [2/17/11](#)]

### **Tipton: War on Terror Requires a Military Response**

In a 2010 Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, Tipton said that the war on terror demanded more of a military response as compared to more law enforcement. [Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Voted Against Cutting \$19 Million from Defense Department Operations**

In 2011, Tipton voted against reducing funding for Defense Department operations and maintenance by \$18.75 million.

“If we cannot do this on defense...where can we do it?” asked Representative Jeff Flake, the Arizona Republican who sponsored the amendment to cut \$19 million for commissions. [[Wall Street Journal](#), 2/16/11]

The amendment failed, 207-223. [HR 1, Flake amendment #370, [Vote #41](#), 2/15/11]

### **Touted Bill to Update Blue Star Mothers of America Congressional Charter to Expand Membership**

In 2011, Tipton and Senator Bennet wrote an op-ed touting a bill to update the Blue Star Mothers of America congressional charter to expand membership opportunities. The bill would expand full membership opportunities to grandmothers, foster mothers, and female legal guardians. The op-ed read, “We must also continue to support the important efforts of organizations, such as Blue Star Mothers, who support those who serve and have served.” [Op-ed, Rep. Tipton and Sen. Bennet, [12/25/11](#)]

### **Introduced Legislation that Passed Calling for Expansion of Blue Star Mothers Act**

In 2011, Tipton introduced legislation that passed calling for an expansion of the Blue Star Mothers Act. The legislation updated the act that expanded the nonpartisan, nonpolitical organization’s membership eligibility beyond biological mothers of Armed Services members who served in specific conflicts. Bennet passed the act in the Senate. [Montrose Press, [12/7/11](#)]

### **Criticized the President for Potential Government Shutdown and Putting Troops Salary on Table**

The host asked Tipton where he thought the government stood on the continuing resolution and if he thought there will be a government shutdown. Tipton said “You know, I think quickly becoming of an opinion that shame on the President; this is a person that’s putting politics in front of the American people. Trying to play gamesmanship and we’re putting a bill forward today, this 1363 and I think it’s appropriate. We need to get the military off as a negotiating chip for either side. Let’s take care of our men and women in the military. The President, according to Steny Hoyer, as you may have well seen as while we were on the floor, that the President’s indicated that if it comes through he will veto it, well shame on the President if he’s putting politics in front of the American people, if he’s putting politics in front of our men and women in uniform, we’ve got real business and let’s get down to it.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

### **Said He Voted to Avoid Government Shutdown to Make Sure Troops Got Funding**

The host asked Tipton why he voted on the 2011 continuing resolution that averted a government shutdown. Tipton said “Well that was a matter of our troops weren’t going to get the funds, in terms of funding for the military and that was not in the deal as far as I’m concerned because we take an obligation to defend the United States of America when we’ve got people having bullets shot at them; I happen to actually know a couple of pilots now who have been flying over Libya...and Afghanistan and you don’t want them texting their spouses back home saying figure out a way to pay the mortgage.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 01:00:47, [4/14/11](#)]

### **Blamed Democrats for Potential Shutdown, Said it Put Military in Harms Way**

In 2011, Tipton held a telephone town hall meeting and said that people agreed with his cuts. “Everyone understands that we’re facing a \$14.3 trillion national debt.” He went on to say “We’re getting ready to raise the debt limit again by another \$1.3 trillion. We don’t have a revenue problem, we have a spending problem.” He blamed Democrats for a potential shutdown.

“This budget fight is impacting real lives,” he said. “We have military personnel in harm’s way who aren’t going to get paid if the government shuts down. We’ve put forward alternatives to keep the government funded through September while we debate the issues, but all I’m hearing from (President

Barack) Obama and (Senate Majority Leader Harry) Reid is that this is more about politics than getting the job done. If they want to shut down the government, that'll be their responsibility." [Pueblo Chieftain, [4/9/11](#)]

### Sought Meeting with Secretary McHugh on Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site

In March 2011, Tipton said he sought a meeting with Secretary McHugh so Congressional outreach to the Pentagon would result in a hold on the expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site. [Editorial, Chieftain, [3/15/11](#)]

### Remained Non Committal in Fight Against Expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site

In March 2011, Tipton made no concrete steps towards making sure the funding ban implemented by Rep. Salazar against the expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site stayed in place. U.S. Sens. Michael Bennet and Mark Udall called on the U.S. Army for written assurance that the military had no plans to expand the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site.

Tipton's office told the Times Independent that he intended to meet with stakeholders on the issue. His spokesman said "It's a complicated issue, and we want to make sure that we're doing what people want...if it turns out that the best solution to that is to introduce another amendment to a (continuing resolution, which are used to fund government agencies if, at the end of the fiscal year, a formal funding resolution was not passed) or something in that regard..." [Trinidad Times, [3/11/11](#)]

### Accused the President of Going Unilaterally Into Libya

In March 2011, Tipton said "At this point, the president has committed American military power without making a case to the American people or Congress for doing so... He says we won't commit U.S. boots on the ground? We'll have to wait and see because we don't know what our mission there is really about."

Tipton said George W. Bush sent U.S. officials to the U.N. to argue a case for invading Iraq in 2003, but "this involvement in Libya was a unilateral act by the president," Tipton said. "Congressional leaders weren't really consulted, they were just told by the White House what was about to happen." [Chieftain, [3/31/11](#)]

### Voted to Save \$35 Billion and Cut Alternate Engine for Strike Fighter

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would cancel funding for an alternate engine for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, cutting an additional \$450 million and saving up to \$3 billion over several years. The Joint Strike Fighter was the nation's most expensive weapons program.

The Bush and Obama administrations had tried to kill the alternate engine for over five years and many Tea Party-affiliated Republicans broke ranks with Speaker John Boehner who supported the program. Work on the engine provided more than 1,000 jobs near his district. [New York Times, [2/16/11](#)]

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said the F136 cost about \$28 million a month to continued and had urged its termination. [CQ Today, [2/16/11](#)]

The amendment was adopted, 233-198. [HR 1, Rooney amendment #2, [Vote #46](#), 2/16/11]

### **Voted to Allow Defense Department to Spend Millions on NASCAR Sponsorships**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an amendment that would bar the Department of Defense to sponsor NASCAR race cars.

The Army spent approximately \$7 million on NASCAR endorsements, down from \$11.6 million in 2009, and another \$5 million on drag racing. The Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard had all dropped their sponsorships of NASCAR in 2006. [[National Journal](#), 2/15/11]

The amendment was rejected, 148-281. [HR 1, McCollum amendment #50, [Vote #90](#), 2/18/11]

### **Voted Against Acknowledging the Leadership of Presidents Obama, Bush and Clinton in the Killing of Osama bin Laden**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion to recognize that the killing of Osama bin Laden resulted from the leadership and direction of President Obama and to recognize the leadership of Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton as well as the intelligence community.

The motion would have also directed the intelligence community to prioritize tasks and activities which would lead to the fall of al-Qaeda and organizations that fall under their influence. [[The Hill](#), [5/13/11](#)]

The motion failed 182-228. [HR 754, [Vote #328](#), 5/13/11]

### **Voted to Delay the Repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell**

In 2011, Tipton voted to delay the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

The FY2012 Defense Authorization bill contained a number of policy riders including one which changed the process for the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell which bans homosexuals from serving openly in the military. Under the rider, which was included in the bill, the repeal would be delayed until the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine chiefs could certify that the repeal wouldn't harm their units' "readiness, effectiveness, cohesion, and morale." [[Wall Street Journal Blog-Washington Wire](#), [5/12/11](#); CQ BillAnalysis HR 1540, 7/04/11]

The bill passed 322-96. [HR 1540, [Vote #375](#), 5/26/11]

### **Voted Against Increasing Combat Pay for Troops**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which would increase combat pay for troops. The motion increased the maximum amount of bonus pay troops receive while in combat to \$325 per month effective October 1, 2011. [CQ Floor Votes, [5/26/11](#)]

The motion failed 185-233. [HR 1540, [Vote #374](#), 5/26/11]

### **Voted Against Increasing Funding for Customs and Border Security**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an amendment which increased border security and customs funding by \$32 million in the Homeland Security Appropriations legislation.

The amendment would have increased the funding for customs and border security by \$32 million by transferring \$16 million from the Office of the Undersecretary for Management and another \$16 million from the Office of the Undersecretary for Science and Technology. [CQ Floor Votes, 6/01/11]

The amendment failed 162-256. [HR 2017, [Vote #388](#), 6/01/11]

### **Voted to Cut 10 Percent of the Department of Homeland Security's Funding**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment which would have cut the funding for the Department of Homeland Security, except US Customs and Border Protection and Immigration and Customs Enforcement, by 10 percent.

According to [Politico](#), “Republicans, including the party leadership, were badly split on the proposed 10 percent reduction which would have come on top of \$1.1 billion already cut from current Homeland funding.” [[Politico](#), [6/02/11](#); [Congressional Record](#), [6/01/11](#)]

The amendment failed 110-312. [HR 2017, [Vote #402](#), 6/02/11]

### **Voted for Major Cuts to the Department of Homeland Security**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which contained major cuts to the Department of Homeland Security, including funding for first responders.

The appropriations bill funded the Department of Homeland Security for Fiscal Year 2012. This budget was \$1.1 billion less than the amount appropriated in FY2010 and \$3 billion less than the amount requested by President Obama. The cuts impacted grants for local fire departments, which were originally cut by \$460 million but after a Democratic amendment were only cut \$140 million. The bill contained a \$2 billion cut for state and local aid funds from the Fiscal Year 2010 budget. There was also an amendment adopted which barred the TSA from using collective bargaining. [[Politico](#), [6/01/11](#), [6/02/11](#); [Washington Post](#), 6/03/11]

Even the Republican Chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee Rep. Peter King voted against the bill saying:

“We know also from bin Laden’s own records that he is aiming at maritime, he is aiming at mass transit, and he is aiming at our major cities. Yet we are cutting each of those programs by 50 percent, a fifty percent cut. [...] And I just cannot see why, at a time when the threat level is the highest it’s been since September 11, that we are reducing Homeland Security grants by 50 percent. [[Congressional Record](#), [6/01/11](#)]

The bill passed 231-188. [HR 2017, [Vote #409](#), 6/02/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which increased funding for state and local transportation and railroad security assistance grants by \$75 million. The motion failed 187-234. [HR 2017, [Vote #408](#), 5/26/11]

## **Voted Against Millions in Additional Funding for Suicide Prevention and PTSD for Veterans**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which would have provided an additional \$20 million for veterans' medical service to help with post-traumatic stress disorder and suicide prevention.

According to the [Watertown Daily Times](#), "Rep. Bill Owens offered an amendment to a military appropriations bill in the House of Representatives that would increase spending on veterans' mental health services by \$20 million." The \$20 million would be put towards better advertising the suicide prevention assistance and services offered to veterans. [[Watertown Daily Times, 6/14/11](#); CQ Floor Vote, 6/14/11]

The motion failed 184-234. [HR 2055, [Vote #417](#), 6/14/11]

## **Voted for an Increase in Defense Spending**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill increasing defense spending by \$17 billion dollars.

The legislation funded the Department of Defense at \$17 billion dollars more than Fiscal Year 2010 levels, the only department that "will see a double-digit increase in its budget beginning Oct. 1." [Fox News, [7/08/11](#)]

The bill passed 336-87. [HR 2219, [Vote #532](#), 7/08/11]

## **Voted Against Increased Funding for the Yellow Ribbon Program by \$200 million**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which increased funding for the Yellow Ribbon Program by \$200 million.

The motion increased funding for the Yellow Ribbon Program by \$200 million dollars. "The Yellow Ribbon Program is a Department of Defense-wide effort to support National Guard and Reserve service member families with information on benefits and referrals before, during, and after deployments." [[Yellow Ribbon Program, Accessed 9/29/11](#)]

The motion failed 188-234. [HR 2219, [Vote #531](#), 7/08/11]

## **Voted to Allow Military Contracting with Convicted Felons**

In 2011, Tipton voted against prohibiting Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineers contracting with convicted felons charged with contract fraud, waste or abuse violations.

The motion prohibited Coast Guard and Army Corps of Engineer contracts from being awarded to persons convicted of fraud, embezzlement, theft, tax evasion or bribery for 10 years, with the availability of waivers in cases of national security. [CQ Floor Votes, 11/15/11; Congressional Record, 11/15/11; [Whidbey News-Times, 11/15/11](#)]

The bill failed 189-235. [HR 2838, [Vote #841](#), 11/15/11]

## **Voted Against a Pay Raise for Military Personnel**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a 1.6 percent pay raise for military personnel, contained in the fiscal year 2012 defense authorization bill.

The bill passed 283-136. [HR 1540, [Vote #932](#), 12/14/11]

## Energy Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Voted to cut DOD research on alternative energy*
- ✓ *Opposed legislation requiring home sellers to disclose previous energy bills*
- ✓ *Opposed programs that supported clean energy use and discovery*

Scott Tipton opposed legislation that would require home sellers to disclose their homes energy costs to potential buyers. He also opposed legislation that would allow the Department of Defense to research new ways to develop alternative energy resources. Additionally, Tipton opposed bills that would help develop and support clean energy resources like solar while at the same time finding ways to finance additional alternative energy resources.

### **Opposed “Right to Know” Act on Energy Use**

In 2009, Tipton voted against the Homebuyers’ Energy Right to Know Act. The measure required the seller of a residence to provide the buyer with both the energy billing and use history for the property for the 12-month period after the listing. [HB09-1247 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/04/09]

The bill passed the House, 34-29. [HB09-1247, House Journal page 710, 3/13/09]

### **Voted to Cut Defense Department Research on Alternative Energies**

In 2011, Tipton voted for an amendment that would reduce funding for Defense Department procurement, research and innovation programs by \$115.5 million. The aim of reduced funding was for alternative energy research.

The amendment failed, 109-320. [HR 1, Pompeo amendment #86, [Vote #44](#), 2/15/11]

### **Opposed Increased Funding for Colorado Clean Energy Finance Program**

In 2009, Tipton voted against increased funding for the Colorado Clean Energy Finance Program. The bill would have increased funding from \$30 to \$40 million for clean energy loans through fiscal year 2010-11.

The bill provided for the loans to facilitate large-scale commercial, industrial and institutional installations of solar electric generation facilities. [SB09-51 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/04/09]

The bill passed the House, 40-24. [SB09-51, House Journal page 942, 3/30/09]

### **Opposed Clean Technology Discovery Program**

In 2009, Tipton voted against creating the Clean Technology Discovery Evaluation Grant Program to provide grant assistance to aid in the commercialization of renewable energy technologies or technologies and products that aid in energy efficiency, conservation or environmental mitigation.

The bill required that 25 percent of grants would be awarded to higher education, 25 percent to clean technology companies, and 50 percent to support technologies between clean technology and higher education. [SB09-31 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/17/09]

The bill passed the House, 51-11. [SB09-31, House Journal page 1035, 4/06/09]

### **Opposed Incentives for Solar Thermal Installations**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that made all sales, storage and use of components used in solar thermal systems exempt from state sales and use taxes. The bill allowed local governments to provide the same financial incentives for solar thermal as was being provided for solar electric installations.

The bill passed as amended by the Senate, 44-21. [SB09-1126, House Journal page 1800, 5/05/09; SB09-1126 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/17/09]

### **Would Not Commit to Supporting Legislation Which Compensated Uranium Miners**

In April 2011, Tipton said he was looking at legislation introduced by Senator Tom Udall that would help thousands of uranium industry workers obtain federal compensation.

Tipton, whose district includes uranium mines, said he was looking at the legislation. [[Daily Journal, 4/18/11](#)]

### **Voted For Increasing Home Heating Assistance by \$50 Million**

In 2011, Tipton in favor of an amendment that would increase funding for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Programs (LIHEAP) by \$50 million. The amendment would reduce funding for substance abuse and mental health services at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration by \$98 million.

The amendment was rejected, 104-322. [HR 1, Bass amendment #565, [Vote #71](#), 2/17/11]

## **Accused of Wanting to Loosen Regulations on Energy Industry that Would Hurt Tourism**

In 2011, Tipton called for the loosening of regulations by the EPA for the energy industry. He said the regulations made consumers pay more. Allyn Harvey with the Checks and Balances Project said industries such as tourism also needed to be protected. “The gold medal trout streams that draw people all over the world to come fishing here,” he says, indicating the negative environmental effects. “Or the ski and tourism industries, which are enormous employment engines.” She went on to say, energy giants already have enough leeway in their operations. “68 percent of the leases in Colorado, if I have my numbers correct, are idle,” he says. “There’s a lot of land the energy industry already has the right to develop. We’d like to see them focus on that rather than hurrying along to give them rights to more land.” [kjct8, [9/19/11](#)]

## **2010: Tipton Non-Committal on Thompson Divide Drilling**

In November 2010, Scott Tipton remained non-committal on the prevention of drilling in the Thompson Divide area.

“We do have some economic issues that are already in place there,” Tipton said. “It’s great to have coalitions and to come forward but we want to make sure that we open up that process and make sure that we’re hearing a lot of public input.” [[Aspen Daily News](#), 11/08/10]

## **Pitkin, Garfield, and Gunnison Co. Officials Endorsed Thompson Divide Coalition**

In 2010, the elected leaders of Pitkin, Garfield and Gunnison counties all endorsed the Thompson Divide Coalition’s opposition to gas drilling in the area.

The Pitkin County commissioners also took steps last spring to strengthen their own existing regulations for oil and gas drilling, in the event leaseholders do act on their Thompson Divide holdings. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 4/17/11]

## **Explored Legislation to Allow Controversial Gas Drilling in Thompson Divide**

In 2011, Tipton was exploring legislation for a controversial gas development in the Thompson Divide area with SG Interests. John Salazar, who Tipton unseated in the November election, had promised to introduce federal legislation to block gas development in the Thompson Divide, gaining endorsements from the Garfield, Gunnison and Pitkin county commissioners. [[Aspen Daily News](#), [7/11/11](#)]

## **Editorial Called on Tipton to Oppose Texas-based SG Interests’**

In 2011, the Aspen Times editorialized against Texas-based SG Interests’ request to “unitize” a handful of leases it holds in the Thompson Divide area. The paper called on Tipton to oppose the project due to “networks of new roads, noise and air pollution, befouled drinking water and trampling of homeowners’ property rights — oil and gas development has brought jobs and a measure of prosperity to western Garfield County, but it’s a short-term prosperity that will be long outlived by the scars on the landscape and the irreparable damage to everything from wildlife

populations to water quality.” The paper called on Tipton — to withdraw the Thompson Divide from availability for future oil and gas leasing. [Editorial, [Aspen Times, 7/8/11](#)]

### **County Commissioners Urged Tipton to Call for Legislation to Prevent Oil and Gas Drilling in the Thompson Divide Area**

In 2011, Pitkin County commissioners called for legislation to prevent oil and gas drilling in the Thompson Divide area and wrote a letter to Tipton that urged him to introduce legislation that would permanently withdraw the Thompson Divide area from availability for future leasing. Tipton wanted to bring SG Interests and the Thompson Divide Coalition to the table. [[Aspen Times, 7/7/11](#)]

### **Organized a Hearing in Colorado to Examine Federal Regulations Effect on the Energy Industry**

In 2011, Tipton, organized a meeting of the House Small Business Subcommittee on Agriculture, Energy and Trade Chairman at the City Hall in Grand Junction. The hearing was titled “Are Excessive Energy Regulations and Policies Limiting Energy Independence, Killing Jobs and Increasing Prices for Consumers?” The Grand Junction Free Press reported “The field hearing will include testimony from James Martin, Administer, Region 8, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; Helen Hankins, Colorado State Director, U.S. Bureau of Land Management; David White, County Commissioner, Montrose; David Ludlam, director, West Slope COGA, Grand Junction; James A. Kiger, Environmental Manager, Oxbow Mining, LLC, Elk Creek Mine, Somerset; and Dick Welle, Manager, White River Electric, Meeker.” [[Grand Junction Free Press, 7/15/11](#)]

### **Removed Name from Natural Gas Bill After Koch Opposition**

In June 2011, Tipton pulled his name as a co-sponsor of HR 1380, a measure to reduce dependence on foreign oil by giving tax credits to companies to convert their car fleets to natural gas. [[Greeley Tribune, 6/15/11](#)]

### **Blamed Obama Administration, Fed for Rising Gas Prices**

In May 2011, in a congressional hearing, Tipton blamed the Obama administration for rising gas prices. Tipton said, “The value of a barrel of oil is based off of the U.S. dollar, correct?” He continued, “So would you see it as a failure of the federal government, specifically the Fed, failing to stand up and strengthen the U.S. dollar, allowing it to weaken, which is ultimately affecting gas prices – hurting senior citizens, hurting struggling families here at home.” Others argue that infusing cash into the banking system both frees up credit for small business, and that a weaker dollar improves the market for U.S. exports. [[Colorado Independent, 5/27/11](#)]

### **Showed Support for Natural Gas Industry and Said He was Looking at How Industry was Protecting Public Health**

In May 2011, Tipton toured an oil rig in Parachute, Colorado to show his support of the natural gas industry. Tipton said, “We’ve got some great resources...we can develop them responsibly.”

Natural gas is just one part of what he calls an all of the above approach and an industry that will Tipton said he wanted to “be able to get [our] people back to work, and hopefully to be able to ultimately drive down prices for the consumers.”

On the issue of public health concerns as drilling gets closer to home, Tipton stated that, “part of our mission...today, is to go out and see what the industry is doing in terms of those safeguards to be able to protect the public health and safety.” [CBS News 5, YouTube, Uploaded, [5/19/11](#)]

### **Opposed What He Considered Over Regulation of Natural Gas Industry**

In May 2011, Tipton toured an oil rig in Parachute, Colorado to show his support of the natural gas industry. Tipton also spoke out against what he considers over regulation, “we all know we need regulations, but we’ve seen an over-reach....we see right now in Washington, they’ve generated legislation that is resulting in \$1,750,000,000 dollars worth of regulations.”

“It’s been my experience for the most part, and that doesn’t mean anything is perfect. The industry understands political, economic, social, and environmental ramifications of not doing it right,” Tipton said. [CBS News 5, YouTube, Uploaded, [5/19/11](#)]

### **Supported Increase in Domestic Drilling; Negotiated With Local Groups Trying To Block Natural Gas Drilling Leases**

In 2011, Tipton supported increased domestic drilling, according to the Aspen Daily News, “Tipton’s ramped-up words on domestic drilling come as he is negotiating with a local coalition attempting to block drilling on natural gas leases in the Thompson Divide area outside of Carbondale.”

Tipton had also criticized Secretary of the Interior Salazar, who had floated the idea of designating public lands “wild lands” to block energy exploration. Tipton said “I applaud the secretary for backing off a bad policy decision . . . That came about because of the things we’ve done in Congress. We need to actually be able to develop those resources, and I will push for that. Because I am talking to too many people that are suffering at the gas pump right now.” [[Aspen Daily News, 6/6/11](#)]

### **Blamed Fed, Obama Administration’s Policies for Rise in Gas Prices; Criticized for Failing to Reign in Oil and Gas Tax Breaks**

In 2011, Tipton blamed the policies of the Federal Reserve, and the Obama administration for the rising gas prices that he said are “hurting senior citizens, hurting struggling families here at home.” Tipton was criticized for failing to reign in “tax breaks and subsidies for the nation’s leading oil and gas companies, which have been enjoying record profits during the recent spike in gas prices.”

During a Congressional hearing Tipton said “The value of a barrel of oil is based off of the U.S. dollar, correct?...So would you see it as a failure of the federal government, specifically the Fed, failing to stand up and strengthen the U.S. dollar, allowing it to weaken, which is ultimately affecting gas prices – hurting senior citizens, hurting struggling families here at home.” [[Real Aspen, 6/3/11](#)]

### **Donor Testified Before Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight Hearing on President Obama’s Budget**

In 2011, in the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight Hearing, “Effect of the President’s FY-2012 Budget and Legislative Proposals for the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service’s Energy and Minerals Programs on Private Sector Job Creation, Domestic Energy and Minerals Production and Deficit Reduction” James Schroeder President and CEO of Mesa Energy Partners, LLC., and President of Western Energy Alliance, testified. During Tipton’s 2010 campaign, Schroeder donated \$4650 to Tipton. Between March and October, Schroeder donated \$5250 to Tipton. In December, Tipton then refunded Schroeder \$600. In 2006, Schroeder donated \$500 to Tipton’s campaign. [Natural Resources Committee, accessed [6/22/11](#); OpenSecrets.org, accessed [6/22/11](#)]

### **Tipton Member of House Natural Resources Committee, Not on Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight**

In 2011, when Schroeder testified, Tipton was a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, but did not sit on the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight Hearing. [Natural Resources Committee, accessed [6/22/11](#); Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Oversight, accessed [6/22/11](#)]

### **Held Hearing on Gas Prices; Blamed Administration for Rising Prices**

In April 2011, Tipton chaired his first Agriculture, Energy and Trade Subcommittee meeting of the House Small Business Committee on gas prices. He said “We’ve seen the current Administration recklessly pile regulations on the energy industry without considering the impact they would have on small business and jobs. These punitive policies have stifled domestic energy production across our country, killed jobs, and left us to rely on a volatile foreign oil supply. Small businesses are already operating on tight budgets and are struggling to maintain and create jobs in this tough climate. The added cost of transportation because of rising gas prices is more than many can bear. Congress must act to embrace an all of the above energy platform and put forward solutions with the end goal of energy independence, economic growth and job creation.” [News First 5, [4/13/11](#)]

### **Said Nuclear Power Plant in Pueblo Required Local Input; Advocated for Developing Gas, Oil and Coal**

In March 2011, Tipton said he was aware of the proposed nuclear power plant in Pueblo. “(Pueblo County Commissioner) John Cordova and I were just visiting on that, and we obviously need the guidance of the local community,” Tipton said. “It’s a very local issue. But it was a 40-year-old facility in Japan that withstood a 9.0 earthquake. It wasn’t prepared for a 23-foot tsunami. We always want to make sure we are doing energy safely, responsibly, we’re looking out for our people.”

He went on to say, “This is something the community needs to sit down and have a good discussion on. The events in Japan and the turmoil in the Middle East are very compelling arguments for America to develop a true energy plan. Develop the resources we have here in terms of gas, oil, using new technologies to develop our coal industry. Each one of those gets back to job creation.” [[Pueblo Chieftain, 3/22/11](#)]

### **Argued for Less Oversight of Natural Gas Drilling Industry**

Tipton proposed study to tabulate the fiscal impacts of federal regulations on the natural gas drilling industry. “I’m exploring ways to cutback regulation, including possible legislation to require a regulatory impact study — an RIS, similar to an EIS for environmental issues — and establish a joint House and Senate committee on regulatory oversight,” Tipton wrote in a guest column for the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel.

Tipton also backed legislation to strip U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of a large amount of regulatory authority. [[Colorado Independent, 3/21/11](#)]

Headline: “Polis, Tipton don’t agree on gas drilling regulations” [[Real Aspen, 3/23/11](#)]

### **Promised to Disburse Funds from Surplus Oil and Mineral Royalty Money to Counties**

In March 2011, Moffat County Commissioner Tom Gray said Tipton had not given up on royalty money from oil shale development near the Roan Plateau.

Tipton advocated for redistributing surplus royalty money to the county, which could be anywhere from \$1 million to \$2.5 million. The federal leasing and mineral production in the area generated royalties, which the government put into a fund. After the fund paid for natural gas production infrastructure and cleaning up the air, it was to be split between the federal government and the state and local governments.

Tipton advocated that a \$50 million surplus from the fund go to the counties that contributed to them. The news release stated Tipton would seek to divide and disperse the funds through legislative action. [[Craig Daily Press, 3/22/11](#)]

### **Said it was Time to Curb Dependence on Foreign Oil**

In February 2011, Tipton said he wanted to curb America’s foreign oil consumption. “I believe it needs to be all of the above,” he said. “You know, wind, solar, geothermal — let’s take advantage of those. Let’s also develop coal, let’s also develop nuclear energy in this country, let’s develop our oil and our oil shale and do it in a responsible way.” [[Craig Daily Press, 2/23/11](#)]

### **Spoke at the Colorado Oil and Gas Association Banquet**

Rep. Tipton (R-Co) was the keynote speaker at The Western Slope division of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association. He declared, “We have to reinvigorate the energy industry here in Western Colorado. One of the big obstacles we’re going to have to overcome is over regulation at the federal end.” [[nbc11news.com, 2/25/11](#)]

### **Wanted Yes-to-All Energy Option**

In a March 2011 press release, Tipton said he would strive for a yes-to-all option when it came to energy production. “In addition to exploring new technologies, we must end the de facto drilling moratorium on the Gulf of Mexico, rein in the EPA, and repeal the onerous regulations that have stifled oil and natural gas production. Our position must be yes-to-all,” the press release read. [Rep. Tipton, press release, [3/8/11](#)]

### **Believed Colorado’s Resources Were Answer to Soaring Gas Prices**

Amidst complaints of rising oil prices in March 2011, Tipton said, “oil, natural gas, nuclear energy as well, we have all of these elements that we can develop on the Western Slope of Colorado to help move us toward true energy self-sufficiency in this country.” [kktv.com, [3/8/11](#)]

### **Refuted Accuracy of Report Showing Nearly Half of All Leases to Private Drilling Companies were Not in Use**

In 2011, Tipton refuted a report released by Secretary Salazar which showed that nearly half of all leases to private companies were inactive and there was not enough drilling on public lands. “Secretary Salazar and the Obama administration’s attempt to shift the blame for rising gas prices by resurrecting the old ‘use it or lose it’ myth is laughable,” said a spokesman for U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton, R-Colo. “What isn’t funny, however, is that their no-across-the-board energy policy has killed thousands of jobs and left our country vulnerable to a volatile foreign energy supply.” [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, [3/29/11](#)]

### **Op-ed: Called Tipton’s Claim that Regulation was Holding Back Oil and Gas Incorrect**

An op-ed from the CEO of Aspen Skiing Company wrote that Tipton’s claim that state regulations on oil and gas drilling were holding back Colorado’s job growth were incorrect. He wrote “If you’re concerned about jobs and growth in the gas and oil business in Colorado, here are some facts: Job growth in active drilling operations is recovering faster than other western states. Processing time for new drilling permits has been cut from 63 to 35 days in the last two years. Last year Colorado issued the third highest number of permits in its history. Wyoming is considering adopting similar regulations to those governing drilling in Colorado, because they make so much sense.” [Op-ed, Denver Post, [4/1/11](#)]

### **Voted to Repeal Increased Efficiency Standards for Light Bulbs**

In 2011, Tipton voted to repeal bipartisan regulations that increased energy efficiency standards for light bulbs.

The bipartisan regulations passed in 2007 increased energy efficiency standards for light bulbs. The regulation requires bulbs to be 25-30 percent more efficient by 2014 and 60 percent more efficient by 2020. The bill would have also removed \$30 million in funding for education and research that was to go along with the new energy standards. [[New York Times](#), 7/13/11; CQ Floor Votes, 7/12/11]

The bill failed (it was considered under suspension of the rules which requires a two-thirds majority to pass) 233-193. [HR 2417, [Vote #563](#), 7/12/11]

### **Voted for Cuts to the Department of Energy Budget**

In 2011, Tipton voted to cut funding for the Department of Energy in Fiscal Year 2012, including to high speed rail and renewable energy programs and to repeal regulations on light-bulbs.

The bill, which provides funding for the Department of Energy in Fiscal Year 2012 cut \$1 billion from similar Fiscal Year 2011 funding. This funding goes to the Department of Energy and the Army Corps of Engineers programs. The bill moved \$1 billion from high speed rail funding to flood relief along the

Mississippi and Missouri rivers. It also cut \$491 million from the renewable energy programs from FY11 leaving it at \$1.3 billion for FY12. The bill blocks the administration from closing the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste project and, because of an amendment, repeals the 2007 bipartisan regulation on light bulbs which would make them more energy efficient. [[Associated Press](#), 7/15/11]

The bill passed 219-196. [HR 2354, [Vote #600](#), 7/15/11]

### **Voted Against Funding to Defend Against Attacks on Electricity Delivery and Reliability Systems**

In 2011, Tipton voted against increasing funding to defend against attacks on the nation's electricity delivery and reliability systems.

The motion would have increased funding for "Energy Department expenses related to electricity delivery and energy reliability by \$5 million and funding for Defense-related Energy Department activities by \$2 million, offset by a decrease of \$7 million in funding for Energy Department administration." [CQ Floor Votes, 7/15/11]

The motion failed 182-232. [HR 2354, [Vote #599](#), 7/15/11]

### **Voted Against Preventing Gas Price Hikes**

In 2011, Tipton voted against limiting the seizures of American farm and ranch land and to prevent gas price hikes.

The motion would have directed "the president to ensure federal agencies take 'any feasible step' to prevent an increase in gas prices and limit seizures of American farm and ranch land." [CQ Floor Votes, 7/26/11]

The motion failed 181-248. [HR 1938, [Vote #649](#), 7/26/11]

### **Voted to Protect Companies Retaliating Against Workers Trying to Unionize**

In 2011, Tipton voted to prevent the National Labor Relations Board from "ordering any employer to close, relocate or transfer employment under any circumstances."

The bill would have prohibited the National Labor Relations Board from taking action against companies that it felt were retaliating against workers for forming a union, striking, or exercising any of their other federally protected rights. These actions include "ordering a company to reinstate production or make certain investments, at a given location" or "blocking a firm's decision to relocate" and would apply to all decisions that had not been finalized prior to the passage of the legislation. [[New York Times](#), 9/15/11; CQ Floor Votes, 9/15/11]

The bill passed 238-186. [HR 2587, [Vote #711](#), 9/15/11]

### **...And to Allow Them to Outsource American Jobs**

Tipton even voted against a motion which would have ensured that the National Labor Relations Board retained the “authority to order a company to maintain or restore jobs that have been or will be outsourced to a foreign country in violation of the National Labor Relations Act.” [CQ Floor Votes, 9/15/11]

The motion failed 189-235. [HR 2587, [Vote #710](#), 9/15/11]

## EPA/ Environmental Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Did not believe that climate change was caused by man*
- ✓ *Opposed government regulation of greenhouse gas emissions*
- ✓ *Claimed environmental regulations were costing Americans “trillions”*
- ✓ *Received a score of 4 out of 100 on the League of Conservation Voters ranking of continuing resolution votes*

**Scott Tipton said he did not believe that climate change is man-made. Tipton accused the Environmental Protection Agency of enacting regulations that hurt jobs and opposed the EPA’s ability to regulate greenhouse gases. Tipton celebrated the decision by Secretary of Interior Salazar not to enforce a program designed to preserve wild lands. Tipton received at score of four out of 100 from the League of Conservation Voters based on his votes on the 2011 continuing resolution.**

### **Tipton: “We’ve had Climate Change Ever Since the Creation of the Earth”**

In 2010, Tipton remained noncommittal on the issue of whether climate change is man made. He said that the earth had always experienced climate change.

“I think we've had climate change ever since the creation of the Earth,” Tipton said. “The Rocky Mountains in many areas were shaped by receding glaciers. ... Let's look at this proactively. We all want clean air. We want clean water. We also want to be able to turn on the light and be warm on a cold winter night.” [Environment and Energy Daily, 12/07/10]

### **Did Not Believe that Climate Change was Caused by Man**

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered “no” when asked if the Earth’s climate and temperature fluctuation was caused by man. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Opposed Government Regulation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

In a 2010 Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, Tipton answered “yes” when asked if he opposed government regulation of greenhouse gas emissions. [Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Claimed Environmental Regulations Were Costing Americans “Trillions”**

In February 2011 floor remarks, Tipton claimed “regulations cost the American people \$1.75 trillion annually.” [Tipton Floor Remarks on H.Res 72, 2/10/11]

### **EPA Regulation and CAFÉ Standards are “Job-Killing”**

In 2011, Tipton said that many of the standards put in place were “job-killing” and a result of the EPA and CAFÉ standards.

“Of those 46 new regulations, 10 came from the EPA, including job-killing regulations of carbon emissions and increased CAFE standards. The cost of these new EPA regulations alone total \$23 billion annually.” [Tipton Floor Remarks on H.Res 72, 2/10/11]

### **“EPA Regulations Run Counter to the Free Market”**

In 2011, Tipton said that EPA regulation runs counter to free market capitalism.

“These EPA regulations run counter to the free market principles and directly impact rural communities, small businesses, and families in my district. We simply cannot continue down the path of creating unnecessary regulatory traps that drain our economy and do little more than penalize small businesses and discourage job creation.” [Tipton Floor Remarks on H.Res 72, 2/10/11]

### **“Not All Regulations Are Unwarranted”**

In 2011, Tipton said that not all regulation from the EPA were bad but that regulation needs to me more “commonsense.”

“To be clear, not all regulations are unwarranted,” Tipton said. “Commonsense rules play an important role in our economy and in keeping the American people safe. However, common sense has been lost in the regulatory process that has become politicized and wrought with bureaucracy and overlap.” [Tipton Floor Remarks on H.Res 72, 2/10/11]

### **Tipton: EPA Regulations Are “Regulatory Traps That Drain Our Economy”**

In February 2011, Tipton took to the House Floor in opposition of EPA regulations, which he called “regulatory traps that drain our economy.”

“These EPA regulations run counter to free-market principles and directly impact rural communities, small businesses and families in my district. We simply cannot continue down this path of creating unnecessary regulatory traps that drain our economy do little more than penalize small business and discourage job creation.”

The EPA regulations he talked about include the regulation of greenhouse gases and carbon emissions.  
[newsfirst5.com, 2/10/11]

### **Appealed to the EPA for More Stringent Emissions Standards**

In March 2009, Tipton appealed to the EPA to enact more stringent emission standards in the wake of emissions concerns from the Four Concerns Power Plant.

“The excessive emissions have traveled across state and sovereign nation lines, clogging the air and damaging the health of southwestern Colorado residents. Just as New Mexico would not accept toxic pollutants to be dumped by Colorado into the Rio Grande River, neither should Colorado allow avoidable pollutants to flow into our state from New Mexico,” Tipton said in a letter requesting help.

Tipton asked Suthers to join his appeal to the Environmental Protection Agency for more stringent emissions standards and to urge Salazar to intervene as head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The EPA's plan for the Four Corners Power Plant located on the Navajo Nation was completed in May 2007. It included stricter limits on sulfur dioxide and set federal limits on nitrogen oxides, total particulate matter and opacity. [Associated Press, 3/10/09]

*Note: Nitrogen Oxide is regulated by the EPA [EPA Website, accessed 4/09/11]*

### **FCPP “Largest Single Nitrogen Oxide Sources in the United States”**

In 2009, Tipton said in a letter to the Colorado Attorney General that the Four Corners Power Plant was “the largest single nitrogen oxide source in the United States.” [Indian Country Today, 4/22/09]

### **Voted to Cut EPA Budget by One Third**

In 2011, Tipton voted to cut EPA funding with cuts coming from:

“\$3 million from a greenhouse gas monitoring system; \$10 million in climate change-related state grants; \$500 million for the World Bank and emissions-reducing projects in developing countries; \$10.5 million from the Energy Star program; \$5 million from the EPA's greenhouse gas reporting registry; \$250 million from the EPA Great Lakes Initiative.” [greenbiz.com, 2/14/11]

### **Advocated for Federal Funds to Stop Bark Beetle Epidemic**

In 2011, Tipton worked to obtain federal funds to kill the destructive Bark Beetle in the Rocky Mountain Region. The letter requested that any unused Forest Service funds from the FY2010 budget be reallocated to help with the epidemic.

The letter stated, “Healthy forests are important to the livelihood of millions of people in the West and critical to economic recovery. The forests are a source of a reliable water supply, tourism, energy

generation, and recreation for the region. Swift action is essential in the face of threats to public safety and critical infrastructure.”

“People’s lives and livelihoods are at risk because of the damage that has been inflicted by the bark beetle,” Tipton said. “We have been losing the fight in the Rocky Mountain Region, and we bear the scars in our district. We must do more to stop the epidemic.” [[AG Journal, 4/11/11](#)]

### **Tipton: “I’m Certainly Not Against the Environment”**

In 2011, Tipton received a score of 4 out of 100 on the League of Conservation Voters ranking of continuing resolution votes.

“I think unfortunately oftentimes we try to put in the position that you’re either for or against when it comes to the environment,” Tipton said. “I’m certainly not against the environment, and I don’t know anyone who is. There are those of us who have the perception that we don’t have to pick winners and losers.” [[New York Times, 3/4/11](#)]

### **Petitioned EPA to Intervene in Preventing Pollution From Four Corners Power Plant**

In 2009, Tipton wrote to Colorado Attorney General John Suthers asking Suthers to join him in writing to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar about pollution from the Four Corners Power Plant in New Mexico. In the letter, Tipton complains about the region’s noticeably worse air quality.

“The (Four Corners plant’s) dangerous emission levels of NOx have created a permanent haze above Mesa Verde and the surrounding areas,” he wrote. [[Durango Herald, 3/12/09](#)]

### **Helped Promote McInnis’ Healthy-Forest Initiative**

In 2005, [The Cortez Journal](#) reported that Scott Tipton worked with former Congressman Scott McInnis in helping promote and develop the Congressman’s healthy-forest initiative.

The initiative is described as “a new public lands policy...calling for more trees to be cut on federal land to protect forests from wildfire.”

The legislation restricted environmental protections that prevent tree cutting such as reducing log planners options before cutting, limiting judges’ powers to block projects, and limiting the involvement of environmental groups and neighbors in giving input on projects. [[Cortez Journal, 12/22/05](#); [Helena Independent Record, 12/04/03](#)]

### **Supported an “All of the Above” Energy Policy**

In a 2010 Colorado Farm Bureau Candidate Survey, Tipton said that he supported an “all of the above” energy policy. Tipton said that includes “pursuing solar, geothermal, wind, and new green energy advancements.” [Colorado Farm Bureau Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **Supported Nuclear Energy Plant Development**

In 2010, Tipton said that he supported the construction of nuclear energy plants in the United States.

“I support the construction of new nuclear power plants and increased exploration and use of natural gas in Colorado.” [Colorado Farm Bureau Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **30 Colorado Business Leaders Wrote Tipton Expressing Disappointment That He Supported Anti-Wilderness Bill**

In December 2011, 30 Colorado business leaders wrote Tipton a letter requesting that he reconsider his support for the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act saying it posed “a serious threat” to their bottom line. The act would open up vast areas of protected lands to drilling, mining and road building. The outdoor recreation industry said that they were “extremely disappointed” that Tipton was co-sponsoring the act.

“Our industry depends on the conservation of our public lands to provide places for our customers to use the products that we make and sell,” their letter states. “H.R. 1581 represents a serious threat to the outdoor recreation industry and the thousands of jobs and local communities we help support. It would also severely undermine the opportunities Americans have to enjoy their federal public lands.” Conservation and sportsmen groups — including Colorado Backcountry Hunters & Anglers — have criticized Tipton over his support of H.R. 1581 and over other environmental issues. [[Real Aspen, 12/16/11](#)]

### **Said He was Cautious About Wilderness Designations**

In 2012, when a constituent asked Tipton about wilderness designations he responded by telling her that Congress needs to be very cautious about wilderness designations, adding that other protections should be considered first before such a “proscriptive measure.” [[Vail Daily, 1/7/12](#)]

### **Conspicuously Absent from Forum on Preserving Environment and Cultural History of District**

In 2012, Tipton claimed he was not invited to a forum in his district about giving the national historic park designation to parts of Colorado. Tipton claimed he would not oppose such a study, as long as it was accounted for in the Park Service budget. Salazar claimed he was invited and talked about conserving the areas cultural heritage. [[Chieftain, 1/7/11](#)]

### **Repeatedly Voted to Weaken Protections for Land, Air and Water**

In 2012, the Real Aspen publication wrote that Tipton repeatedly voted to weaken protections for land, air and water. “Colorado’s conservative congressional delegation is championing the Kochs’ cause. Gardner, Tipton, Doug Lamborn and Mike Coffman all have taken the No Climate Tax Pledge and repeatedly voted to weaken protections for land, air and water.” [[Real Aspen, 1/9/12](#)]

### **Petitioned by Group Opposed to Gas Drilling in Thompson Divide**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton, as well as the BLM and other elected officials, were petitioned by the Community for Thompson Divide group, a group opposed to gas drilling in the Thompson Divide. The

petition asked Tipton, along with other members of Congress who represent Colorado, to introduce legislation that would protect the Divide from any more federal oil and gas leasing. [[Post Independent, 11/10/11](#)]

### **Editorial: Commended Tipton for Protecting Water**

In 2011, an editorial commended Tipton for opposing allowing the federal government to own water originating on federal lands despite state laws. The editorial read “Colorado’s 3rd District Congressman Scott Tipton is one of those leading the charge now. He is fighting a proposed Forest Service policy to require those holding private water rights on national forest lands -- such as ski areas and ranchers with Forest Service grazing permits -- to transfer their water rights to the Forest Service as a condition of having their permits renewed.” [Rep. Tipton, press release of Grand Junction Daily Sentinel Editorial, 11/15/11]

### **Accused of Finding Pesticides in Drinking Water Acceptable**

In 2011, Tipton was accused of being unconcerned with the pesticides in water after he reportedly the pesticide permitting process was hurting small agricultural businesses.

“The last thing small agriculture businesses need is more regulations,” Tipton said in a release. “And certainly not costly regulations that are duplicative and bring no added environmental protection, such as the NPDES permit requirement for pesticide applications.” [Rep. Tipton, press release, [11/17/11](#); Blog, Summit County Citizens Voice, [11/19/11](#)]

### **Supporters of Wilderness Bill Said Tipton was Trying to Keep Them Out of Town Hall**

In 2011, the Colorado Democratic state party chair Rick Palacio said Tipton was trying to pack a town hall meeting in Ridgeway with opponents of a federal wilderness bill to keep out supporters of the plan. Palacio cited an email from County GOP chair Jim Buske asking Republicans to jam the hall with conservatives before a town hall meeting on proposed wilderness expansion in the San Juan Mountains. Tipton’s spokesman claimed they were unaware of attempts by a local mining association to keep supporters from attending the meeting. [Associated Press, [9/28/11](#)]

### **Advocated for Removing Protections from Wild Areas That Could Hurt Water Supply and Hunting and Fishing**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton was a co-sponsor of the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act, which would do away with the idea of roadless areas. The Obama Administration opposed the legislation because it would not allow a case-by-case consideration of wilderness areas. It was argued that such areas provided clean water and preserved hunting and fishing opportunities by Harris Sherman, undersecretary for natural resources and environment at the Agriculture Department. Tipton questioned Bob Abbey, director of the Bureau of Land Management. He asked if the bill was implemented if there were still protections on the land. “There could be some protections for some of these lands, and in some cases there would not be protections,” Abbey said. [Durango Herald, [7/28/11](#)]

### **Requested Unused Funds be Spent to Combat a Bark Beetle Epidemic**

In 2011, spending requests raised questions about the ideological consistency of the freshmen Republican class. Tipton, along with other freshman Republicans co-signed a letter to the Department of Agriculture

and requested that unused funds be spent helping the Rocky Mountain Region combat a bark beetle epidemic. As Republicans were drilling down on cutting federal spending, they were also urging in favor of funding for pet projects. [Huffington Post, [7/5/11](#)]

### **Urged the Government Accountability Office to Audit Fees Collected at Recreation Sites**

In 2011, Tipton circulated a letter in Congress to urge the Government Accountability Office to audit the federal program that allows the U.S. Forest Service to assess a fee to visit public lands, such as the Maroon Bells Recreation Area. Tipton wrote that he had concerns that there were problems with the program that allowed federal land management agencies to collect fees at recreation sites and then reinvest them. [Aspen Times, [7/13/11](#)]

### **Fought EPA Regulations, Trade Restrictions to Aid Local Potato Farmers**

In 2011, Tipton met with potato farmers and railed against EPA regulations that he said cost the country \$1.7 trillion.

The farmers were concerned about pending rules on dust from the EPA. Farmers said the regulations were akin to regulating blowing dirt. Tipton said he questioned the EPA on the regulations. The farmers were also concerned about lifting potato shipping restrictions implemented by Mexico. The industry was also interested in Cuba, however Tipton said “There’s a lot of politics.” [Pueblo Chieftain, [6/10/11](#)]

### **Continued to Oppose Backing Permanent Funding Ban on Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site Expansion**

In April 2011, Tipton claimed he was opposed to the expansion of the Pinon Canyon maneuver site, however, he continued to avoid answering whether he would support a permanent funding ban on expansion, claiming there needed to be more dialogue. Ranchers complained that the lack of certainty surrounding the base prevented bankers from lending them money due to the possibility that their land could be taken by eminent domain.

At a meeting residents in the area said the base expansion was a dark cloud hanging over their heads. “What are you going to do to get rid of this dark cloud that’s hanging over us that’s been threatening our community for years?” asked one member of the audience in a reference to the Pinon Canyon project. “We need some action from you.” That comment drew the biggest round of applause of the night. [Pueblo Chieftain, [4/27/11](#)]

### **Said Wild Lands Policy Hurt Energy Production and Job Creation**

Tipton opposed the “wild lands” policy that Interior Secretary Ken Salazar sought to implement because he said it was the Interior Department “overreached its authority.” Salazar’s order would protect the wilderness characteristics in areas of Tipton’s district. Tipton said the unemployment rate was tied to energy production in the west and advocated for energy production. “The West is mineral rich, and there are those of us who believe there can be a win-win” with energy and environmental concerns, Tipton said. [Daily Sentinel, [3/19/11](#)]

### **Backed Bike Race at Colorado National Monument**

In March 2011, Tipton urged the National Park Service to allow the Quiznos Pro Challenge bicycling race at the Colorado National Monument.

“It has no impact. They (race organizers) reached out to the superintendent on the Monument, showing a willingness to be able to work together, and it’s going to have that positive economic impact. I see this as an opportunity to create a win-win,” says Tipton. [News 11, [3/15/11](#); Rep. Tipton, press release, 3/16/11]

### **Criticized for Attacking Federal Governments Role in Resource Management**

A March 2011, Megan Graham, the director of San Juan Citizens Alliance said Tipton attacked federal agencies role in resource management. The op-ed read “That has not stopped some from attacking. Indeed, our very own 3rd Congressional District Rep. Scott Tipton – who has a seat on the House Natural Resources Committee, which makes important decisions that affect these and other important departments – has made not surprising, but no less concerning comments about the onerous nature of federal regulations. He has claimed that said rules cost \$1.7 trillion each year – a bona fide ‘overreach of federal regulations.’”

The op-ed went on the voice concerns over Tipton’s actions to target the EPA and sought to challenge the organizations authority to enforce environmental rules. [Op-ed, San Juan Citizens Alliance, [Durango Herald, 3/16/11](#)]

### **Thought EPA Regulations Were Unwarranted**

While speaking on the House floor in February 2011, Tipton said, “These EPA regulations run counter to free-market principles and directly impact rural communities, small businesses and families in my district. We simply cannot continue down this path of creating unnecessary regulatory traps that drain our economy do little more than penalize small business and discourage job creation.” The EPA regulations he talks about include regulating greenhouse gases and carbon emissions. [[newsfirst5.com](#), 2/10/11]

### **Said He Would Advocate for Two Endangered Fish Species**

Tipton said he couldn’t commit to getting funding to protect two endangered fish species in the San Juan River, but he said he was talking to other congressman.

“This isn’t a Republican or a Democratic issue,” Tipton said. “It’s a regional issue. We need to fulfill our obligations.” [[Durango Herald, 2/21/11](#)]

### **Hoped He was Not Perceived as Anti-Environment**

After Tipton got a score of 4 out of 100 on the League of Conservation Voters ranking of continuing resolution votes, he said he hoped he was not perceived as anti-environment. “I think unfortunately oftentimes we try to put in the position that you’re either for or against when it comes to the environment,” Tipton said. “I’m certainly not against the environment, and I don’t know anyone who is. There are those of us who have the perception that we don’t have to pick winners and losers.” [[New York Times, 3/4/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Protecting Colorado Forests and State Parks.**

Tipton voted to for an amendment to cut the Land and Water Conservation Fund by 90%. The fund protects cherished places across the nation including Colorado state parks and the San Juan National Forest. [League of Conservation Voters, National Environmental Scorecard, [2/11](#); [Fort Collins Coloradoan](#), 8/16/05; [Denver Post](#), 11/19/98]

### **Voted to Cut Funding for Clean Drinking Water by 56 Percent**

Tipton voted to cut funding for clean drinking water state revolving funds by 56 percent. He also voted to reduce drinking water projects in communities across the country. [Congressional Documents and Publications, 2/24/11]

### **Voted to Limit Funding for EPA to Protect People from Pollution**

Tipton voted to limit funding to stop the EPA from making sure corporations did not put pollutants into the air that makes people sick. [Congressional Documents and Publications, 2/24/11]

### **Objected to Program to Preserve Wilderness Land**

Tipton opposed Bureau of Land Management's "Wild Lands" program to designating areas with wilderness characteristics as Wild Lands.

He said, "This decision will seriously impact the West and will add to the economic uncertainty and distress that has been hindering job creation in our area," he said. "We all value our public lands but this is another example of Washington-knows-best mentality." [[Durango Telegraph](#), [3/3/11](#)]

### **Said He Worked for Quality Water and Air in State House**

Tipton was elected to the Republican to the Colorado House of Representatives for the 58th District in November of 2008. In the state house, he worked to ensure the people of Colorado had quality water and air. In the U.S. House of Representatives, he said he would focus on reforming regulations. [Politico, accessed [3/4/11](#)]

### **Accused of Ignoring Local Support for Wild Lands Policy**

In March 2011 it was reported that Tipton's assertion that there was massive local opposition to the Wild Lands Policy was inaccurate.

The policy's creator, Ken Salazar, sent out a letter concerning the policy and it was signed by 73 local politicians. The director of the Checks and Balances Project that rallied for the policy, said, "Claims by Rep. Tipton, and other industry allies that Sec. Salazar's wild land policy has no local support falls flat on its face." [[Colorado Independent](#), [3/8/11](#)]

### **Discussed San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act Favored by Town of Telluride**

The Town of Telluride favored the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act, which Tipton said was an ongoing discussion. The bill would protect acres of Lizard Head Pass, Mt. Sneffels and Last Dollar areas. [Telluride Daily Planet, [3/11/11](#)]

### **Remained Non Committal in Fight Against Designating Chimney Rock a National Monument**

In March 2011, Tipton remained non-committal on designating Chimney Rock Archeological area in southwest Colorado as a National Monument. His spokesperson said, “Congressman Tipton is interested in this issue, but before he pursues any legislation on it he believes it is important to hear from the community and get all of the opinions of the key stakeholders in the area.” [American Independent, [3/10/11](#)]

### **Group Said Tipton’s Claim to Overwhelming Local Opposition to Wild Lands Policy was Overblown**

In March 2011, Matt Garrington, Denver-based deputy director of the Checks and Balances Project said claims from Tipton that there was overwhelming local opposition to the wild lands policy was incorrect. [Real Vail, [3/9/11](#)]

### **On Fence About Upgrading Colorado National Monument to National Park**

In March 2011, Tipton said it was up to the community whether the Colorado National Monument should be upgraded to a national park. Supporters of the measure said upgrade would attract more tourism. [Associated Press, [3/26/11](#)]

### **Advocated for Federal Funds to Stop Bark Beetle Epidemic**

In 2011, Tipton worked to obtain federal funds to stop the beetle kill in the Rocky Mountain Region. The letter requested that any unused Forest Service funds from the FY2010 budget be reallocated to help with the epidemic.

The letter stated, “Healthy forests are important to the livelihood of millions of people in the West and critical to economic recovery. The forests are a source of a reliable water supply, tourism, energy generation, and recreation for the region. Swift action is essential in the face of threats to public safety and critical infrastructure.”

“People’s lives and livelihoods are at risk because of the damage that has been inflicted by the bark beetle,” Tipton said. “We have been losing the fight in the Rocky Mountain Region, and we bear the scars in our district. We must do more to stop the epidemic.” [AG Journal, [4/11/11](#)]

### **Would Not Commit to Supporting Legislation Which Compensated Uranium Miners**

Tipton said he was looking at legislation introduced by Senator Tom Udall that would help thousands of uranium industry workers obtain federal compensation.

Tipton, whose district includes uranium mines, said he was looking at the legislation. [Daily Journal, [4/18/11](#)]

## **Voted against Ensuring that Deregulation of Greenhouse Gases Wouldn't Threaten Our National Security**

In 2011, Tipton voted against allowing the EPA and the Secretary of Defense to certify if a lack of greenhouse gas regulation would threaten national security before repealing those regulations.

The amendment prevented the provisions of this legislation from going into effect until the EPA Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, certified that the consequences of not regulating greenhouse gas emissions. The certification would include the consequences of the subsequent impact on climate change, including the potential to create sustained natural and humanitarian disasters and the ability to likely foster political instability where societal demands exceed the capacity of governments to cope. It would also require certification that the repeal of those regulations did not jeopardize American security interests at home or abroad. [Congressional Record, p. H2380, [4/06/11](#)]

The overarching bill changed the definition of air pollutant to exclude greenhouse gas as it pertained to climate change (though greenhouse gases could be regulated for reasons other than climate change). It also repealed previous EPA regulations on stationary sources of greenhouse gases and barred the EPA from issuing any new regulations on stationary sources of greenhouse gases. Automobile emission standards were exempt from this bill. [CQ House Action Report, [4/04/11](#)]

The amendment failed, 165-260. [H.R. 910 H. Amdt. 485, [Vote #239](#), 4/06/11]

## **Voted to Bar the EPA from Regulating Greenhouse Gas**

In 2011, Tipton voted to prohibit the EPA from addressing climate change by regulating greenhouse gases, to change the definition of air pollutant in the Clean Air Act and to keep states from addressing climate change through the regulation of greenhouse gases.

The bill changed the definition of air pollutant to exclude greenhouse gas as it pertained to climate change (though greenhouse gases could be regulated for reasons other than climate change). It also repealed previous EPA regulations on stationary sources of greenhouse gases and barred the EPA from issuing any new regulations on stationary sources of greenhouse gases. Automobile emission standards were exempt from this bill. [CQ House Action Report, [4/04/11](#)]

According to an article in the San Francisco Chronicle: "This really is a shocking attack on states' rights and on public health," said Stanley Young, a spokesman for the California Air Resources Board, which is working on emissions standards for cars that would take effect in 2017. He estimated that the bill could roll back scheduled cuts in pollution and petroleum consumption by 25 percent nationwide. [[San Francisco Chronicle, 3/14/11](#)]

The bill passed 255-172. [HR 910, [Vote #249](#), 4/07/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which would have specified that the authority of the EPA administrator under the Clean Air Act wouldn't be abridged by the bill when it came to protecting the health of children and seniors from air pollution produced by large sources of carbon dioxide. The motion failed 191-236. [HR 910, [Vote #248](#), 4/07/11]

## **Voted to Undermine the Clean Water Act**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which undermined the Clean Water Act by removing the EPA's ability to enforce it.

The bill banned the EPA from issuing new or revising water-quality standards if a state standard had already been approved by the agency without the state's consent. The EPA would also be banned from removing its approval of a state program or limiting federal funds to that program if it disagreed with the way the regulation was implemented, or if the EPA disagreed with the state's water quality standard.

This effectively removed the EPA's authority to supervise and regulate the states. [[New York Times Editorial](#), 7/15/11; CQ Floor Votes, 7/13/11]

The bill passed 239-184. [HR 2018, [Vote #573](#), 7/13/11]

## **Voted Against Regulating Pollutants in Drinking-water Sources**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which continued the EPA's authority to regulate pollutants in drinking-water sources.

The motion stated that the legislation would not affect the EPA's authority when it comes to regulating pollutants, including arsenic or perchlorate, into public drinking-water sources.

The motion failed 188-238. [HR 2018, [Vote #572](#), 7/13/11]

## **Voted Against Protecting New Species under the Endangered Species Act**

In 2011, Tipton voted against protecting new species and habitats under the Endangered Species Act.

The amendment struck language from the underlying bill which "barred the Fish and Wildlife Service from listing new species and habitats for protection under the Endangered Species Act." [CQ Floor Votes, 7/27/11]

The amendment passed 224-202. [HR 2584, [Vote #652](#), 7/27/11]

## **Voted to Block Regulation of Dangerous Pollutants**

In 2011, Tipton voted to block regulations to reduce emissions of pollutants from coal-fired power plants by the Environment Protection Agency.

The bill would have required the establishment of a committee to analyze the impact of certain EPA regulations on the economy, delaying the rules, including those on mercury emissions. [[Chicago Tribune](#), 9/24/11; CQ Floor Votes, 9/23/11]

The bill passed 249-169. [HR 2401, [Vote #741](#), 9/23/11]

Before consideration of the final bill, Tipton even voted against requiring the EPA to “plan and implement a strategy, using existing authority, to control air pollution that could affect the Great Lakes.” [CQ Floor Votes, 9/23/11]

The motion failed 180-233. [HR 2401, [Vote #740](#), 9/23/11]

### **Voted to Nullify Rules Limiting Mercury Pollution from Cement Plants**

In 2011, Tipton voted to nullify rules limiting mercury pollution from cement plants.

The bill would nullify Environmental Protection Agency rules for cement plant emissions and require the development of new rules which would not go into effect until 2017. [[Washington Post](#), 10/09/11; CQ Floor Votes, 10/06/11]

According to the [Washington Post](#), the EPA projected up to \$19 in public-health benefits for every dollar of compliance cost to manufacturers. The rule would curb emissions of mercury, which spread to water and fish and can cause brain damage in infants and children. The rules also would curb emissions of particulates that cause heart and lung diseases, as well as gases such as nitrogen oxide and sulfur dioxide that form smog. [[Washington Post](#), 10/9/11]

The bill passed 262-161. [HR 2681, [Vote #764](#), 10/06/11]

### **Voted to Nullify Rules Regulating Emissions for Commercial and Industrial Boilers**

In 2011, Tipton voted to nullify certain rules regulating emissions for commercial and industrial boilers.

The bill would nullify the current rules for commercial and industrial boilers and require the Environmental Protection Agency to write new rules and finalize them within 15 months of the bill becoming law. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/13/11]

The bill passed 275-142. [HR 2250, [Vote #791](#), 10/13/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion to implement the current proposed commercial and industrial boiler standards for any waste incinerator within five miles of a nursing home, assisted living facility, or hospital. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/13/11]

The motion failed 170-246. [HR 2250, [Vote #790](#), 10/13/11]

### **Voted to block Environmental Protection Agency Rules on the Disposal of Coal Ash**

In 2011, Tipton voted to block the Environmental Protection Agency rules on the disposal of coal ash.

The bill blocked the EPA rules on the disposal of coal ash which would either regulate it as a federal hazardous-waste or require states to regulate it as a non-hazardous waste. The bill instead allowed states to regulate coal-ash as a municipal waste. [[Houston Chronicle](#), 10/15/11; CQ Floor Votes, 10/14/11]

According to the [Houston Chronicle](#), “coal ash – the residue of coal combustion at electric utility plants – contains a range of toxic metals, including chromium, arsenic and lead. Environmental groups, which want the EPA to regulate coal ash as a hazardous waste, say those chemicals can get into groundwater when ash-disposal structures fail, putting people at risk. [[Houston Chronicle](#), 10/15/11]

The bill passed 267-144. [HR 2273, [Vote #800](#), 10/14/11]

Before final passage of the bill, Tipton even voted against a motion which would require monitoring for imminent failures of coal-ash impoundment systems and the notification of state and local first responders and evacuation of the endangered people. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/14/11]

The motion failed 172-238. [HR 2273, [Vote #799](#), 10/14/11]

### **Voted to Swap Federal Land with Foreign-Owned Copper Mine Company**

In 2011, Tipton voted to convey land in Arizona to the Resolution Copper Company for a “giant mine” in exchange for different land in Arizona.

The bill authorized a land swap for the land in Arizona in order for Resolution Copper Co. to develop the largest copper mine in North America by exchanging land in Arizona with the federal government. The bill would exchange “about 2,400 acres in the Oak Flat area of the Tonto National Forest in return for giving more than 5,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land throughout Arizona to the federal government”.

Opponents of the project said it would harm Apache tribal lands and threaten the region’s already scarce water supply. Other critics noted that Resolution Copper’s foreign-based parent company could bring in foreign workers to run the mine or use robotic technology operated outside of the United States. [[Arizona Republic](#), 10/26/11; CQ Floor Votes, 10/26/11]

The bill passed 235-186. [HR 1904, [Vote #809](#), 10/26/11]

### **Voted to Prevent Air Pollution Regulation Implementation**

In 2011, Tipton voted to prevent air pollution regulations from going into effect.

The bill would exempt what is called “nuisance dust” from regulation under the Clean Air Act. The bill defined “nuisance dust” as particulate matter “generated primarily from natural sources, unpaved roads, agricultural activities, earth moving, or other activities typically conducted in rural areas.” [[Salt Lake Tribune](#), 12/10/11; CQ Floor Votes, 12/08/11]

Democrats warned that the bill could pose a threat to public health because it would cover dust from mining operations, smelters and other industrial sources. The Congressional Budget Office also estimated that it would cost the EPA \$10 million to rework its existing air pollution standards and to study whether changes would be necessary in its national monitoring network. [USA Today, 12/08/11]

The bill passed 268-150. [HR 1633, [Vote #912](#), 12/08/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion to ensure that the Environmental Protection Agency would continue to be allowed to regulate particulate containing cadmium, lead or asbestos released from mining activities and from demolition and renovation. [CQ Floor Votes, 12/08/11]

The motion failed 166-252. [HR 1633, [Vote #911](#), 12/08/11]

## Education Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Did not believe the United States needed a Department of Education*
- ✓ *Voted to make teacher pay contingent with student performance*
- ✓ *Opposed No Child Left Behind*
- ✓ *Opposed legislation making school board meetings more transparent*
- ✓ *Voted against free lunch programs for pre-school students*
- ✓ *Wife is a retired teacher*

**Scott Tipton did not believe the United States needed a Department of Education, preferring that education decisions be made at the local government level. He opposed the No Child Left Behind Act as well as the Colorado Student Assessment Program. He voted to make teacher pay contingent upon student performance. He also voted to make local school board meetings less transparent. Scott Tipton's wife is a retired teacher.**

### **Did Not Believe that the United States Needed a Department of Education**

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered “no” when asked if the United States needed a Department of Education. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

### **...Backed Away from the Abolishment of the Department of Education**

In 2010, Tipton, after originally answering that he supported ending the U.S. Department of Education, later said that he supported education and the cabinet level position, just not the mandates from federal government.

“I hated these things. Everybody’s trying to put you into an absolute box. I’m a big supporter of education, obviously, but I don’t like the mandates coming out of Washington, D.C.,” Tipton said.

He answered “no” to the survey question to signal his dislike for the strings that come attached to federal funding of schools, he said.

“That was my point on that. We’ll have a Department of Education, but I’d like to see it directed to empowering local communities,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), 9/17/10]

## **Tipton on Education: Washington Should Put Together a “Broad Outline” on Expectations**

In December 2005, Tipton, in discussing education policy with The Cortez Journal, said that the federal government should put together a broad set of expectations for education and let state boards fulfill specific achievement standards.

“We need to bring education back home and not have it be based out of Washington,” he said. [Cortez Journal, 12/22/05]

### **...But then “Strongly Favored” Dismantling the Department of Education**

In 2010, Tipton, after saying that he did not support a full dismantling of the Department of Education, answered in the Bears Ears Patriots candidate survey, that he “strongly supported” dismantling the Department of Education.

“What I’ve been saying consistently since we started is that I believe in local control for education,” Tipton said. “That being said, 70 percent of the Western Slope, 50 percent of the 3rd Congressional District on average is either on federal, state or tribal land, so we need those (federal) dollars. My issue with the Department of Education is, it’s always with strings attached.” [ColoradoPols.com, 9/26/10]

### **Voted for Legislation Making Teacher Tenure Contingent Upon Student Performance**

In May 2010, Tipton voted for Senate Bill 191, legislation that would tie tenure for school teachers to test scores by students.

According to The Cortez Journal, the bill would deny the protections of tenure to teachers until they prove their worth, in part through improvement in their students’ test scores. Teachers who have tenure could lose it if their students fail to improve.

Tipton supported the legislation in the House Education Committee even though he claimed to be uncomfortable with the legislation and wanted more rights for teachers.

“In many respects, people are on the same page, but it’s how we achieve that end,” Tipton said. [Cortez Journal, 5/08/10; Durango Herald, [5/08/10](#)]

### **Senate Bill 191 Lacked Funding for Implementation**

In May 2010, The Cortez Journal reported that the Legislature cut \$260 million from schools that year, and SB 191 included just \$240,000 to revamp the hiring and firing system.

“How can we justify laying off hundreds of teachers around the state and still continue to grab for these pie-in-the-sky kinds of legislation that have millions of dollars attached to them and no way of funding it?” said Rep. Judy Solano, D-Brighton. [Cortez Journal, 5/08/10]

## **Tipton: “No Fan” of Colorado Student Assessment Program or NCLB**

In October 2008, Tipton expressed his dislike for the Colorado Student Assessment Program as well as the No Child Left Behind Act. In discussing why he did not like the two programs, Tipton said that he “trust(ed) local communities on school issues.” [Cortez Journal, 10/10/08]

### **Wanted to Eliminate the Mandates of NCLB and Colorado Student Assessment Program**

In October 2008, during an interview with The Cortez Journal, Tipton said that he wanted to remove the mandates of state and federal departments of education and allow local officials to set standards.

“I am putting forward proposals to liberate our educational system from state mandates and do our best to influence federal mandates. I am not a big supporter of No Child Left Behind or the Colorado Student Assessment Program. We need to support our local teachers, administrators and parents. No one cares more than they do or how to better reach and teach our students. Let's eliminate the mandates and deliver the resources to let them do their job.” [Cortez Journal, 10/18/08]

## **Opposed Transparent School Board Meetings**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a measure requiring school boards to make audio recordings of each meeting where votes were taken. The audio recordings would then be made public.

The bill allowed an individual or entity to request a copy of the recording.

The bill passed the House with Senate amendments, 38-24. [HB09-1082, House Journal page 675, 3/11/09]

## **Sponsored an Amendment to Allow Fort Lewis College to Adjust Tuition Rates**

In 2011, Tipton introduced an amendment that allowed Fort Lewis College to adjust tuition rates. [Press Release Colorado Senate Democrats, 4/05/11]

## **Voted Against Raising Taxes to Fund Colorado Education**

In 2010, Tipton voted against House Concurrent Resolution 1002, which asked voters to give the Legislature the authority to raise taxes for education. The idea would effectively end the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights for schools and colleges, the largest part of the state's budget.

The House Education Committee passed the measure 8-4 Monday with all eight Democrats on the panel as co-sponsors of HCR 1002. [ColoradoPols.com, 4/20/10]

## **Voted Against Free Lunch Program for Preschool Students**

In 2009, Tipton voted against making program money from an earlier school lunch protection program available to pre-school children in public schools. An earlier bill had provided \$85,000 toward eliminating the reduced price for lunch under the National School Lunch Act.

The bill passed, 46-16. [SB09-33, House Journal page 644, 3/09/09; SB09-33 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 5/15/09]

### **Promised to Sponsor Legislation to have Federal Government Pay for Native American Students at Fort Lewis College**

In 2011, Tipton promised to sponsor legislation that would have the federal government pay tuition for Native American students at Fort Lewis College. In 2011, the state of Colorado paid for Native American tuition at Fort Lewis. Legislators in 2010 tried to reduce state payments to the college, but they gave up in the face of heavy student opposition. [[Durango Herald](#), 2/02/11; [Cortez Journal](#), 2/03/11]

### **Voted Against Protecting Pell Grants from \$39 Million Cut**

In February 2011, Tipton voted against an amendment that would have increased funds for Federal Pell Grants by \$39 million, offset by a reduction in funds available for Department of Education Program Administration.

The amendment was not adopted 186-238. [HR 1, [Vote #146](#), 2/19/11]

### **Voted Against Parental Involvement Act**

In 2009, Tipton voted against creating the Parental Involvement in K-12 Education Act. The bill allowed an employee to take unpaid leave to attend parent-teacher conferences or other academic activities specified in the bill.

The bill did provide for certain provisions and exemptions and for the employer and employee to make agreements regarding the leave. [2009 Digest of Bills]

Final passage of the bill, as amended by the conference report, passed 39-26. [HB09-1057, House Journal page 1682, 5/04/09]

### **Supported More Federal Funding for Charter Schools**

In 2010, Tipton supported increased federal funding for charter schools. [Congressional Quarterly, 11/03/10]

### **Supported the Reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools Act**

In April 2011, Tipton supported the Secure Rural Schools Act.

According to an overview of the program on the USDA's website, the "law ensures that for the next four years (2008 –2011), counties across the country can continue to count on stable and transition payments that provide funding for schools and roads, make additional investments in projects that enhance forest ecosystems, and improve cooperative relationships." [[Valley Courier](#), 4/29/11; [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov), [accessed 6/16/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Funding to Prevent School Dropout**

In 2009, Tipton voted against creating the Healthy Choices Dropout Prevention Pilot Program to provide grant funds aimed at increasing the number of children who graduate from school.

The Department of Education would administer the pilot program, which would include using grant money for opportunities for physical exercise, academic assistance, nutrition counseling, mental health counseling and health education. [SB09-123 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/10/09; 2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed, 45-19. [SB09-123, House Journal page 1526, 4/28/09]

### **Violated Republican Spending Rules to Support School Vouchers**

In 2011, Tipton voted to reauthorize and modify the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship program which grants school vouchers to low-income D.C. students without offsetting the cost of the program through spending cuts.

The legislation would authorize, from Fiscal Year 2012 through 2016, \$20 million annually to reinstitute a school voucher program in the District and would also authorize an additional \$40 million annually to assist District public and charter schools from fiscal 2012 to 2016. This funding was not offset by cutting spending elsewhere in the budget and would have violated the CutGo rule put in place by Republicans; they waved the rule for this bill. [CQ Today Online News, [3/30/11](#); Associated Press, [3/31/1](#)]

The bill passed 225-195. [HR 471, [Vote #204](#), 3/30/11]

### **Voted Against Providing Funding for DC Public and Charter Schools, Special Education Services**

In 2011, Tipton voted against cutting the DC School Vouchers Program and directing the funding instead to DC Public Schools, DC Public Charter Schools and DC Special Education Services.

The motion would have struck the underlying bill which provided for the D.C. School Voucher Program and instead authorize \$30 million per fiscal year from fiscal year 2012-2016 for conditional funding for DC Public Schools, DC Public Charter Schools and DC Special Education Services. [CQ Floor Votes, 3/30/11]

The motion failed, 185-238. [HR 471, [Vote #203](#), 3/30/11]

## **Ethics Issues**

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Opposed voting options for mail-in ballot voters*
- ✓ *Opposed bill to prevent petition fraud*
- ✓ *Opposed expanded protections for constituent communications*

**Tipton voted against allowing a voter to deliver his or her mail-in ballot to any polling place in the voter's county. He also voted against legislation that would work to prevent petition fraud by reforming the petition process. He has also voted against legislation that would end records requests exemptions for constituent communications.**

### **Opposed Voting Options for Mail-In Ballot Voters**

In 2009, Tipton voted against allowing a voter to deliver his or her mail-in ballot to any polling place in the voter's county, including early voting locations and any voting location on election day.

The bill also expanded the number of mail-in ballots that a person could deliver for others to 10 ballots. [HB09-1186 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 5/21/09; 2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed the House, 37-28. [HB09-1186, House Journal page 487, 2/24/09]

### **Said No Earmarks Meant Less Help for Constituents**

Tipton said he would not be able to help constituents as much because President Obama pledged to veto bills with earmarks. [[Valley Courier](#), 2/1/11]

### **Opposed Bill to Prevent Petition Fraud**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bipartisan-sponsored bill to prevent petition fraud by reforming the initiative petition process.

The bill clamped down on signature-gathering firms by prohibiting them from paying petition circulators by the signature and imposing a number of requirements designed to prevent fraud. The bill also created a process by where people can have their names taken off a petition after signing. [[Denver Post](#), 5/16/09]

Petition circulators would need to be trained and licensed in Colorado. House Speaker Terrance Carroll said that concerns were raised about the use of paid petition circulators from out of state. [Associated Press, 5/15/09]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 52-12. [HB09-1326, House Journal page 1772, 5/05/09]

### **Opposed Expanded Protections for Constituent Communications**

In 2009, Tipton voted against expanding an exemption in the Colorado Open Records Act pertaining to constituent communications.

The bill expanded the exemption to include when a constituent communicates with an elected official to request assistance or information relating to a personal and private matter not publicly known.

The bill passed the House with Senate amendments, 40-25. [HB09-1348, House Journal page 1775, 5/05/09]

## **Tipton “Didn’t Have the Easiest First Year in Washington,” Due to Slow Fundraising and an Ethics Scandal**

In 2012, it was reported that Tipton “didn’t have the easiest first year in Washington,” due to slow fundraising and an ethics scandal involving his daughter. The Denver Post reported, “His fundraising was slow and he stepped into an ethics flap and after hearing that his 22-year-old daughter was dropping his name while working with clients on the Hill for Broadnet, a company run by Tipton’s nephew. He apologized to the House ethics committee.” [Blog, [Denver Post, 1/18/12](#)]

## **Received Money from Koch Brothers; Considered Land Swap for Bill Koch**

Tipton received funding from the three Koch brothers, Charles, David and Bill and worked to undermine the authority of the EPA, while considering land swap for Bill. “Bill’s energy empire, Florida-based Oxbow Carbon & Minerals Holdings, recently gave Tipton \$3,500. Last year, Charles and David’s Kansas-based Koch Industries contributed the same amount to Tipton.” Koch had a mine in Elk Creek Mine in Somerset, Colo., which produces about 5 million tons of low-sulfur coal a year. Bill Koch had a home called Bear Ranch, described as a 5,000-acre paradise. Bill proposed a land swap that Salazar previously agreed to. Tipton pledged to look at the deal. [Colorado Independent, [9/20/11](#)]

## **House Majority PAC Targeted Tipton for Ethics Issues**

In 2011, the Democratic super PAC, House Majority PAC, launched an ad campaign against Tipton highlighting Tipton’s ethics issues as a freshman Republican member. The ad outlined Tipton’s ethics issue in which he possibly steered money from his office to a company his Nephew is associated with. “You don’t say?” a narrator intones. “Only six months in office and Congressman Tipton is channeling congressional funds to his family’s business. [Politico, [8/12/11](#)]

## **Editorial Criticized Democratic Group for Attacking Tipton for Paying Nephew’s Communications Company**

In 2011, the Pueblo Chieftain criticized a radio ad against Tipton, saying they reeked of dirty politics. The Democratic-backed House Majority Political Action Committee aired the ads, which were pulled because they said Tipton had paid a nephew’s communications company to conduct telephone town hall meetings. The editorial read “Billing information from Rep. Tipton’s office shows that he hired two vendors — iConstituent and Constituent Services Inc. — to conduct those sessions. Those firms in turn had a contract with Broadnet, the company owned by Rep. Tipton’s nephew, Scott Patterson, to provide technology to do those events.” [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain, 7/7/11](#)]

## **Held Energy Stocks While Serving on House Natural Resources Committee**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton and Rep. Perlmutter both had potential conflicts of interest associated with their committee assignments and financial interests. Tipton owned oil and natural gas stocks and assets worth up to \$755,055, including up to \$130,000 in Exxon Mobil, according to his 2010 financial disclosure. Tipton also served on the House Natural Resources Committee. [Associated Press, [6/18/11](#)]

### **Held \$750K in Companies His Committee Regulated**

Tipton held financial interests that had the potential to conflict with his committee assignments, which ethics watchdog called “unethical.” The Denver Post reported, “Tipton, R-Cortez, and his immediate family have a portfolio of oil and natural-gas stocks and assets worth between \$267,014 and \$755,055 — including between \$52,000 and \$130,000 in Exxon Mobil — according to Congress members’ personal financial disclosures for 2010.”

Watchdog groups said Tipton’s personal investment could spark a conflict of interest, especially when Resources committee members had taken up issues such as drilling for oil in Alaska, advancing offshore oil leases, exploring geothermal energy on federal lands and advancing wind production. [Denver Post, [6/17/11](#)]

### **Defended Tax Breaks for Himself and Other High Income Earners**

In June 2011, Tipton criticized Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner for the Obama Administration’s efforts to let tax cuts on people who earned more than \$250,000 a year expire. Tipton said small business owners such as himself put their profits back into their companies and such a tax increase would hurt reinvestment. [Pueblo Chieftain, [6/23/11](#)]

### **Financial Disclosure Showed Tipton Among Richest Colorado Representatives**

In June 2011, Tipton’s financial disclosure for 2011 showed he was the richest member of the Colorado delegation among the six who had already filed. His financial disclosure showed assets between \$3.2 million and \$8.7 million. Three members of Colorado’s delegation have yet to file, and it was expected that Tipton would lose his ranking when all the reports were in. [Denver Business Journal, [6/16/11](#)]

### **Editorial Headline: Rep. Tipton mired in a rookie slump**

In 2011, in an editorial, the Denver Post noted the rookie slump that had befallen Tipton. The editorial noted that Tipton first found himself in an ethics scandal involving his daughter and nephew. Then he faced reports that he paid his staff more than any other freshman member of Congress. “First, he found himself apologizing to the House ethics committee for e-mails his daughter sent, invoking her father’s name in an effort to land business for her employer, a company that is owned by Tipton’s nephew. Then, he was dealing with reports that in the first quarter of 2011, he paid his staff a total of \$243,431 — more than any freshman member of Congress. And more recently, news broke that Tipton spent more than \$7,771 from his House office account on vendors that contract with his nephew’s company.”

The editorial read “The legislator from Cortez, who campaigned as a fiscal conservative, is off to a rocky start. At this point, these incidents appear to be rookie mistakes, but time will tell.” [Editorial, Denver Post, [6/11/11](#)]

### **Headline: “Ethics Question; Tipton defends spending with vendors that work with nephew’s firm**

In 2011, Tipton reportedly spent over \$7,000 from his House office account on vendors that contracted with his nephew’s company. The Denver Post reported that the transaction “could violate ethics rules on giving work to relatives. Members of Congress are forbidden from hiring family members, including nieces and nephews. But the rules are less clear on contract work.” [Denver Post, [6/9/11](#)]

## Voted Against Prohibiting Insider Trading by Members of Congress

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which would have directed the SEC to prohibit insider trading by members and employees of Congress.

The motion would have required that the SEC develop rules to prohibit members of Congress and their employees from using nonpublic information gained through their job to benefit themselves in the trading of commodities, securities or swaps or futures. [CQ Floor Vote, 12/13/11]

The motion failed 183-244. [HR 3630, [Vote #922](#), 12/13/11]

## Foreign Policy

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Supported the war in Iraq without an established exit date*
- ✓ *Believed Muammar Gadhafi should be replaced*
- ✓ *Criticized President Obama for the process and failure to consult Congress with regards to Libya*

**Tipton supported the war in Iraq without having a clearly defined exit date. Tipton believed that Muammar Gadhafi should be replaced. However, Tipton criticized President Obama's process of invading Libya, saying he failed to consult Congress.**

### Supported War in Iraq Without Exit Date

In 2006, Tipton supported the war in Iraq, calling it the “the front line in the war on terror” and sought no exit date. [[Denver Post](#), 10/19/06]

“I believe it is foolish to lock ourselves into a rigid, predetermined timeline for withdrawal. Doing this will only give an advantage to those factions within Iraq who want to see democracy fail. I believe Congress must encourage our military leaders to take a hard look at our strategy to ensure we are adapting to a changing enemy.” [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 10/20/06]

### Suggested Sectioning off Iraq until Nation is Secure

In August 2006, Tipton suggested sectioning off Iraq and making Iraqis responsible for a territory once it has been brought under control.

“Then we'd move on to the next quadrant,” Tipton said. “We'd ratchet up the responsibility of Iraq little by little.” [[Durango Herald](#), 8/12/06]

## **Tipton: Free-Trade Agreements Good for Colorado**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton supported the free-trade agreements and hailed the deals with Panama, Colombia, and South Korea as job creating domestically and as promoting the growth of small business.

“Colorado’s agriculture community is standing ready to expand and offer Colorado products to new markets—where there exists a real demand. These agreements with Panama, Colombia and South Korea will help to make our country more competitive and create much-needed jobs. By lowering our tariff barriers we will be creating promising opportunities for small businesses to grow, expand into new markets, and create new American jobs,” Tipton said. [Rep. Tipton, press release, [10/17/11](#)]

## **Wrote Letter Expressing Disappointment in President Obama for Urging Israel to Return to 1966 Borders**

In May 2011, Tipton asked other representatives to sign on to a letter chiding President Obama for urging Israel to return to its 1966 borders.

The letter stated, “we are extremely disappointed that you took it upon yourself to redefine the borders between Israel and Palestine.” According to the letter, the United States should be a mediator that does not “further compromise security in an already volatile region.” Tipton worked with Reps. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., and Joe Walsh, R-Ill. [[Daily Sentinel, 5/24/11](#)]

## **Said Open Communication with Pakistan was Important**

In 2011, Tipton said the day Bin Laden was killed, justice was delivered. He said it was important to have a relationship with Pakistan to keep communication open. “It’s very important that we continue to try and cultivate a relationship with Pakistan,” said Tipton. [NBC 11 News, [5/22/11](#)]

## **Believed America Needs to Replace Gadhafi**

In 2011, Tipton, while criticizing the President for his action in Libya, said that Gadhafi was “a plague on the world” and “someone that we do need to be able to replace.”

“I think that there’s no question that Gadhafi is a plague on the world. This is a person who has been state-sponsoring terrorism, killed Americans, and someone that we do need to be able to replace. I think, unfortunately, the president made a real mistake when he responded to one resolution out of the U.N., didn’t consult with the American people, didn’t make the case, didn’t talk to the Congress of the United States and committed us to action without a plan going forward,” Tipton said. [Interview with Fox Business News, 3/28/11]

## **War is Won By Putting Boots on the Ground**

In 2011, Tipton questioned President Obama’s promise not to put U.S. troops on the ground in Libya.

“He’s talking about not putting troops on the ground. Well, a war has never been won without committing boots to the ground. What’s his plan? What’s he going to do? So there’s a lot the president has to answer for.” [Interview with Fox Business News, 3/28/11]

### **Opposed Libya Intervention Because Of The “Circumstances” Surrounding Involvement**

In 2011, Tipton’s main criticism of President Obama was the way he went about getting involved in action in Libya.

“If the president, perhaps, had taken the opportunity to explain this to Congress and to the American people, there may have been a possibility that we would have been supportive of this, but not under these circumstances. The president took it upon himself. I think it’s an overreach of executive power. He should have come to the Congress and the American people first.” [Interview with Fox Business News, 3/28/11]

### **Accused the President of Going Unilaterally Into Libya**

In March 2011, Tipton said “At this point, the president has committed American military power without making a case to the American people or Congress for doing so... He says we won’t commit U.S. boots on the ground? We’ll have to wait and see because we don’t know what our mission there is really about.”

Tipton said George W. Bush sent U.S. officials to the U.N. to argue a case for invading Iraq in 2003, but “this involvement in Libya was a unilateral act by the president,” Tipton said. “Congressional leaders weren’t really consulted, they were just told by the White House what was about to happen.” [Pueblo Chieftain, 3/31/11]

### **Voted to Prohibit the Use of Ground Forces in Libya**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill that would prohibit the President from deploying United States military personnel to Libya for any reason other than to rescue a member of the Armed Forces from “imminent danger.”

The resolution passed, 268-145. [H. Res 292, [Vote #411](#), 6/03/11]

### **Local Businessman Testified Before Tipton about the Concerns of Free Trade Agreements**

In April 2011, Bill Patterson, from Montrose County testified before the House Committee on Small Business, which Scott Tipton was a member, about his concerns with free trade agreements. The committee was considering free trade agreements with Columbia, Taiwan and South Korea. Patterson was the owner of TEI Rock Drills, which sells drills worldwide.

“Free trade is great, but you also need to make sure you have a level playing field...Part of that is making sure any free trade agreement also protects intellectual property, and that you address technical hurdles,” said Patterson. [Montrose Daily Press, 4/8/2011]

### **Supported Military Commissions Act to Suspended Writ of Habeas Corpus**

In 2006, Tipton supported the 2006 Military Commissions Act, which suspended the writ habeas corpus for alien enemy combatants engaged in plots against the United States.

Tipton went to say that his support of the legislation was to give troops a clearer boundary in executing their mission.

"I believe our troops deserve clear and definable boundaries in order to execute their mission," he said.  
[Pueblo Chieftain, 9/15/06]

### **Suspension of Habeas Corpus Ruled Unconstitutional**

In 2006, the provision of the Military Commission Act that suspended writ of Habeas Corpus was ruled unconstitutional and removed from the legislation. [Supreme Court Opinion, [6/12/08](#)]

### **MCA Reduced the Number of Crimes on Which Enemies Could Be Prosecuted**

In 2006, Tipton supported The Military Commissions Act of 2006, which reduced the number of crimes that combatants could be charged.

Before MCA, any crime against the Common Article 3 of the Geneva Convention could be tried. After MCA, crimes were limited it to torture, cruel or inhuman treatment, murder, mutilation, rape, sexual assault and taking of hostages. [CRS Report, [8/11/09](#)]

### **MCA Eliminated Right to a Speedy Trial**

In 2006, Tipton supported MCA, which eliminated the right to a speedy trial for alien combatants. [CRS Report, [8/11/09](#)]

### **Voted Against the Removing US Forces from Libya**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a resolution which would direct the President to remove all US Forces from Libya within 15 days of the passage of the resolution.

According to The Hill, "[Rep. Dennis] Kucinich said he thought he won over Republicans by focusing more on the need for Congress to assert its Constitutional prerogative to declare war than on the wisdom of the mission itself." [The Hill, [6/04/11](#)]

The resolution failed 148-265. [H Con Res 51, [Vote #412](#), 6/03/11]

### **Voted Against Supporting US Efforts in Libya**

In 2011, Tipton voted against authorizing the limited use of force in support of NATO.

The one-year authorization of limited use of force in support of NATO's mission in Libya would have also required the president to consult with and brief Congress on a regular basis. [The Hill, [6/23/11](#); Politico, [6/24/11](#); CBS News, [6/22/11](#)]

The bill failed 123-295. [H J Res 68, [Vote #493](#), 6/23/11]

### **Voted to Reprimand the President on the Use of Force in Libya**

In 2011, Tipton voted to reprimand the President for the use of force in Libya without congressional approval.

The bill, according to the [Washington Post](#), rebuked President Obama for failing “to provide Congress with a compelling rational” for the military campaign in Libya but stopped short of demanding he withdraw U.S. forces from the fight. [[Washington Post](#), 6/04/11]

The bill passed 268-145-1. [H Res 292, [Vote #411](#), 6/03/11]

### **Voted Against Protections from Unfair Chinese Currency Manipulation**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a bipartisan effort to crack down on unfair Chinese currency manipulations that cost American jobs.

The motion would have added the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act to the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act. The motion would have allowed the U.S. government to impose tariffs on goods produced in countries that “fundamentally” undervalue their currencies. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/12/11]

According to the Economic Policy Institute, “If only China revalued [their currency] by 28.5%, the growth in U.S. GDP would support 1,631,000 U.S. jobs.” That revaluation of the yuan/dollar exchange rate by China alone would increase U.S. GDP by \$207 billion dollars in 18 to 24 months. [Economic Policy Institute, [6/17/11](#)]

The motion failed 192-236. [HR 3078, [Vote #780](#), 10/12/11]

### **Voted to Implement the Colombia Trade Agreement**

In 2011, Tipton voted to implement the U.S.-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement.

The agreement “reduce[d] most tariffs and duties on goods traded between the two countries, reduce[d] barriers to trade in services, increase[d] protections for intellectual property and require[d] Colombia to take steps to strengthen its labor and environmental enforcement standards”. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/12/11]

Critics of the trade agreement said it failed to crack down on violence against union activists. [USA Today, 10/13/11]

The bill passed 262-167. [HR 3078, [Vote #781](#), 10/12/11]

### **Voted to Implement the Panama Trade Agreement**

In 2011, Tipton voted to implement the Panama Trade Agreement.

The bill implemented the Panama Trade Agreement which “reduce[d] most tariffs and duties on goods traded between the two countries, reduce[d] barriers to trade in services, increase[d] protections for intellectual property and require[d] Panama to take steps to strengthen its labor and environmental enforcement standards”. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/12/11]

Critics of the trade agreement said it would take away legal tools used to fight tax evasion and money laundering. [USA Today, 10/13/11]

The bill passed 300-129. [HR 3079, [Vote #782](#), 10/12/11]

### **Voted to implement the South Korea Trade Agreement**

In 2011, Tipton voted to implement the South Korea Trade Agreement.

The bill implemented the South Korea Trade Agreement which “reduce[d] most tariffs and duties on goods traded between the two countries, reduce[d] barriers to trade in services, increase[d] protections for intellectual property and reduce[d] tariffs on U.S. autos exported to South Korea”. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/12/11]

Critics of the trade agreement said there were no guarantees the deal with South Korea would boost U.S. auto exports. [USA Today, 10/13/11]

The bill passed 278-151. [HR 3080, [Vote #783](#), 10/12/11]

### **Voted Against Extending Trade Adjustment Assistance**

In 2011, Tipton voted against extending Trade Adjustment Assistance that provides retraining to workers and others who lost their jobs due to unfair trade practices.

According to the [Indianapolis Star](#), qualified workers are “eligible for college tuition payments, relocation benefits and health insurance tax credits not available to other unemployed workers. And they have a longer eligibility period for unemployment benefits.” [[Indianapolis Star](#), 10/13/11]

The motion to concur passed 307-122. [HR 2832, [Vote #784](#), 10/12/11]

### **Voted Against Blocking Business with Iran-Linked Mining Company**

In 2011, Tipton voted against blocking an American company from partnering with a British mining company with ties to Iran for the largest copper mine in North America.

The motion would have kept Resolution Copper from partnering with entities that have shared interest with the Iran Foreign Investment Company.

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, “Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday mounted a vigorous offense against the bill, saying that Resolution Copper was owned by

London-based Rio Tinto, and that that company is partnered with the Iran Foreign Investment Company in mining uranium in Namibia.” [[Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 10/26/11](#)]

The motion failed. [HR 1904, [Vote #808](#), 10/26/11]

#### **Voted Against Restricting Companies with Ties to Iran from Participating in “Crowdfunding”**

In 2011, Tipton voted against restricting companies with ties to Iran from participating in “crowdfunding.”

The motion would have banned crowdfunding securities sales from being affiliated, in any way, with corporations doing business with Iran. Crowdfunding is funding from a crowd of people — that is, many people provide small amounts of money for financing. [CQ Floor Votes, 11/03/11; [Forbes](#), 1/13/12]

The motion failed 187-237. [HR 2930, [Vote #824](#), 11/03/11]

#### **Voted Against New Sanctions For Banks Doing Business with Iran Central Bank**

In 2011, Tipton voted against implementing new sanctions against financial institutions that do business with Iran’s central bank, contained in the fiscal year 2012 defense authorization bill.

The bill passed 283-136. [HR 1540, [Vote #932](#), 12/14/11]

## Government Reform Proposals

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Wanted to cut the size of the federal government in half*
- ✓ *Wanted to repeal the Hatch Act*
- ✓ *Proposed the creation of a private sector watchdog organization for elected government*
- ✓ *Advocated for single-subject legislation*
- ✓ *Wanted to make a rainy-day fund for Colorado*

**Scott Tipton advocated in an email to campaign supporters that he wanted to cut the size of the federal government in half. He later backed away from that proposal, calling for 10 percent cuts across the board. Tipton opposed the Hatch Act, legislation meant to prevent federal officials from participating in partisan politics. Tipton proposed the creation of a private sector entity that would serve as a watchdog for government.**

### Wanted to Cut Government in Half

In 2010, Salazar criticized Tipton, calling him “Two-Way Tipton,” for differing stances Tipton took during his primary race to woo Tea Partiers in comparison stances took during the general election.

Tipton said in an early e-mail to supporters that he would cut government spending in half. He was quoted as saying he would phase out Social Security and Medicare and dismantle the Department of Energy.

Tipton said the Medicare, Social Security and Energy Department comments were inaccurate statements made by a conservative blogger. [[Denver Post](#), 9/28/10]

**From:** Scott Tipton [mailto:[scott@votetipton.com](mailto:scott@votetipton.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2010 5:53 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Tipton Calls for 50% Cut in the Federal Government



Dear Friends,

As I have been traveling and speaking with voters across the 3rd congressional district over the past few months, I've found that one of the first things people ask me is: "**Why are you running for Congress?**"

I am running for Congress because I have a vision for a federal government that is half the size and cost that it is today. Half as expensive as it is today. Half as many programs. Half everything!

Washington, D.C. will say this is impossible. But consider the reality: The 2010 federal budget is nearly \$4 trillion; double that of just 10 years earlier. The federal workforce will hit 2.15 million this year, topping 2 million for the first time since President Clinton declared "the era of big government is over" in the 1990s. As the private sector lost 7 million jobs from January 2008 to January 2010, the government expanded. It is the European model of the social welfare state and, as Greece now demonstrates, it is a recipe for cataclysmic failure.

### **...And then Didn't Support Cutting Government in Half**

In September 2010, KRDO-TV reported that Tipton had "publicly backed off his 'federal government that is half the size and cost' statement." [ColoradoPols.com, 9/26/10]

### **Tipton Endorsed "10 Percent Plan" in Congressional Race**

In 2010, Tipton endorsed a "10 percent Plan" that would result in a 10-percent policy on cutting federal spending. [Pueblo Chieftain, 2/04/10]

### **...Implement a 10-Percent Cut in all Nondefense Programs**

In 2010, Tipton supported implementing a 10 percent cut to all nondefense programs to the federal budget.

Tipton said that cutting nondefense spending is necessary and that capital gains tax rates will increase at the end of the year unless Congress prevents it. [Pueblo Chieftain, 2/04/10]

### **...Cut the Federal Tax on Capital Gains to 10 percent**

In 2010, Tipton supported cutting the federal tax on capital gains to 10 percent. [Pueblo Chieftain, 2/04/10]

### **...Adopt a Flat 10-Percent Federal Income Tax**

In 2010, Tipton supported implementing a flat 10 percent federal income tax.

“Special interests and politicians may not like the idea of a flat tax because it takes away their power, but there is no better way to encourage companies to invest in jobs here in America,” said Tipton.

“High income taxes simply incentivize companies to send jobs overseas.” [[Pueblo Chieftain, 2/04/10](#)]

### **Advocated for Single-Subject Legislation**

Tipton introduced legislation to require bills and joint resolutions passed in Congress to contain only one subject and have the subject named in the title of every bill.

“During my campaign I made a promise to work to increase transparency in government, and single-subject legislation is a step in that direction,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald, 2/1/11](#)]

### **Wanted to Repeal the Hatch Act**

In 2010, Tipton introduced a symbolic resolution to the Colorado House of Representatives asking Congress to change the Hatch Act. The Hatch Act prohibited partisan political activity by government employees who oversee the spending of federal dollars. The Hatch Act, it was suggested, disproportionately hurt rural officials and prevented them from running for office. [[Durango Herald, 4/28/10](#)]

### **Said He Was Working on Legislation to Address Regulatory Reform**

In Tipton’s February 2011 stop in the town of Rifle, he said regulations were regularly discussed.

“Those are the sorts of things that we were talking about; you have one agency with a certain set of requirements that may be slightly at odds with another agency and what it actually encourages is failure to move,” Tipton said. “You can’t win.”

Tipton said that he is currently working on legislation to address regulatory relief. [[Citizen Telegram, 2/24/11](#)]

### **Proposed Creating Private Sector Commission to Critique Government**

In March 2008, Tipton proposed the creation of a “gold medal commission” composed of private sectors representatives who could look at government from an outside perspective and make suggestions for improvement. [[Montrose Daily Press, 3/08/08](#)]

### **Proposed Efficiency Ratio for Government Agencies to Curb Wasteful Spending**

In March 2008, Tipton proposed the development of an “efficiency” ratio or quotient to have government agencies evaluate and restructure their budget as a step to eliminating “wasteful” spending.

"I'm proposing an efficiency ratio for government. It will not be a "one size fits all" ratio but a method of discovering how much we spend on the institution - before we're able to spend money on education, pave our roads, etc. It's important that our next 58th District representative do more and than say just say they'll represent us. We need to help bring solutions to the table and work together for solutions." [[Montrose Daily Press](#), 3/08/08; [Cortez Journal](#), 10/18/08]

### **Advocated for Single-Subject Legislation**

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"During my campaign I made a promise to work to increase transparency in government, and single-subject legislation is a step in that direction," Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), [2/1/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Legislation to Shore Up Retired Employees Pension Plans**

In 2010, Tipton voted against a bill that would keep pension systems for schools and government employees solvent. The legislation required a 2 percent increase in contributions from both employees and the governments or school districts that pay them. It also raised the retirement age to 55 for people hired before 2007 and 60 for people hired after 2016. Colorado's PERA had a \$22 billion shortfall and was on the path to going broke.

Governor Ritter, in signing the legislation, said, "I think we're the first state in the country to pass legislation that addresses public employee pension system concerns." [[Durango Herald](#), 2/24/10]

### **Supported Reducing Food Regulation**

In 2011, Tipton said he "hopes to pare down regulation on such items as food and health care." [[Durango Herald](#), 1/24/11]

### **Voted to Remove Protections on Food, Toys and Drinking Water**

In February 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have required Congressional committees to place a high priority on tracking, reviewing and preserving the standards that ensure the safety of the food and drinking water supply, and the safety of children's toys.

The motion, offered by Rep. Russ Carnahan (MO-03), was not adopted 178-242. [HR 72, [Vote #32](#), 2/11/11]

### **Campaigned on Making Rainy Day Fund One of His Top Priorities**

In October 2008, Tipton pledged that if he were elected he would make the creation of a "rainy day fund" one of his top priorities.

"I'm going to be a big proponent of putting money away in a rainy-day fund," Tipton said.

According to [The Daily Sentinel](#), Tipton said accused Democrats of failing to vote in favor of amendments to the 2008 budget bill that would have set aside one percent of the budget into a savings account was unacceptable.

Colorado law already requires that lawmakers set aside 4 percent of the general fund into an emergency reserve account. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 10/09/08]

### **Voted Against Legislation to Reform State Pensions through Cuts and Retirement Age Increases**

In February 2010, Tipton voted against Senate Bill 1, a plan that would reform the Colorado state pension system by cutting benefits and raising the retirement age.

According to [The Cortez Journal](#), the bill limited the cost-of-living increases in pension payments to 2 percent a year. It also required a greater contribution from employees and their government employers and raised the retirement age to 60 for people hired after 2016. [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/18/10]

### **Believed Federal Regulations Hurt Economy**

A February 2011 a Pueblo Chieftain editorial said Tipton supported reigning in federal regulations and felt the federal government went overboard in recent years. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

### **Supported Regulatory Impact Statements for Regulations**

A February 2011 a Pueblo Chieftain editorial said Tipton supported Regulatory Impact Statements for regulations. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

### **Voted to Throw Out Votes of Members Not Properly Sworn-In**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a resolution that struck six votes cast by Reps. Michael Fitzpatrick and Pete Sessions as they were both in another part of the Capitol when the Speaker was administering the oath of office to House members in the chamber. The two members conducted official – including voting and making submissions to the Congressional Record – despite having missed the swearing-in ceremony.

In addition to deleting the six votes, the resolution ratified Sessions' election to a standing committee and his participation in its proceedings. [CQ Today, 1/07/11]

It was subsequently reported that Fitzpatrick and Sessions were absent because they were attending a fundraiser on the Capitol grounds, an apparent violation of ethics rules.

The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) editorialized that “by effectively launching his reelection bid even before taking the oath of office, Fitzpatrick comes off as cynical or clueless... Whatever the case, Fitzpatrick subjected himself to national embarrassment by missing the House opening last week to attend a reception attended by more than 500 supporters at the Capitol Visitor Center.” [[Philadelphia Inquirer](#), Editorial, 1/14/11]

The resolution passed, 257-159. [H Res 27, [Vote #11](#), 1/07/11]

## Government Shutdown Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Worried about his pottery business in the event of a government shutdown*
- ✓ *Accused the President of playing politics with a government shutdown*
- ✓ *Voted against final continuing resolution to avoid a government shutdown*
- ✓ *Promised during his 2010 campaign that he would be cautious to avoid a government shutdown*

**In 2011, when the government was on the brink of a government shutdown, Scott Tipton worried about his jewelry and pottery store losing business because Mesa Verde National Park would close. While campaigning in 2010, he said that he would be cautious to avoid a government shutdown out of concern for U.S. service members and American workers. Tipton voted against the final continuing resolution that avoided a government shutdown, saying the legislation did not cut enough from the budget. During much of the discussion leading up to the final continuing resolution, Tipton criticized the President for playing politics.**

### **Accused the President of Playing Politics with a Government Shutdown**

In 2011, Tipton accused the President of playing politics with a government shutdown and putting American service men and women in danger.

“You know, I am quickly becoming of an opinion that shame on the President; this is a person that’s putting politics in front of the American people. Trying to play gamesmanship and we’re putting a bill forward today, this 1363 and I think it’s appropriate. We need to get the military off as a negotiating chip for either side. Let’s take care of our men and women in the military. The President, according to Steny Hoyer, as you may have well seen as while we were on the floor, that the President’s indicated that if it comes through he will veto it, well shame on the President if he’s putting politics in front of the American people, if he’s putting politics in front of our men and women in uniform, we’ve got real business and let’s get down to it.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

### **Said He Voted Against Shutting Down Government Because of Troops**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the continuing resolution that averted a government shutdown. He said “Congressional Democrats punted on passing a budget last year and are attempting to do it again this year...If the government were to shut down tomorrow, under the current rules, our troops in harm’s way would see an interruption in their pay. The thought that our men and women in uniform would be paid

retroactively, when they are risking their lives now, is unacceptable to me. The troops are not a political chip to be played. The Senate and President Obama have no reason not to follow the House in passing this bill.” [Rep. Tipton, press release, [4/8/11](#)]

### **Voted Against 2011 Budget Compromise to Avoid a Government Shutdown**

In April 2011, Tipton voted against the continuing resolution to fund the government through September. He said he voted against the measure because it didn’t go far enough with only cutting \$38 billion in the 2011 budget. [[Denver Post, 4/15/11](#)]

### **Said He Would be “Cautious” About a Government Shutdown**

In December 2010, Tipton, before ever entering office, said that he would be cautious about a government shutdown so as to not hurt seniors.

“I’d be very cautious in that - a government shutdown - because many of our senior citizens are on the razor’s edge right now, and there’d be consequences we wouldn’t want to have. So I’m hoping we can put aside politics and posturing right now to really get the job done.” [[Politico, 12/08/10](#)]

### **Worried About His Jewelry Business During Impending Government Shutdown**

In 2011, Tipton worried that a government shutdown would slow business at the jewelry business he owned near Mesa Verde National Park. [[Denver Post, 4/9/11](#)]

### **Pledged to Stay at Full Staffing Levels Through Shutdown**

In April 2011, Tipton pledged to stay at full staffing levels in the event of a government shutdown.

Tipton’s spokesman said he “believes that it’s important to keep the lines of communication open with the folks back home during this important time.” [[Wall Street Journal, 4/07/11](#)]

### **Vowed to Go Without Pay in Event of Shutdown**

In 2011, Tipton pledged to go without pay as long as the government was shut down.

“When we’re looking at total federal spending, we can cut more,” Tipton said. “I’ll walk down a street at Del Norte or Crawford and I’ll show you families who have cut far more. I’ve talked to small businesses that have cut far more.” [[Denver Post, 4/9/11](#)]

### **Worried About His Jewelry Business During Impending Government Shutdown**

In 2011, Tipton worried at a government shutdown would slow business at the jewelry business he owned near Mesa Verde National Park. [[Denver Post, 4/9/11](#)]

### **Voted to Circumvent the Constitution to Dramatically Cut Federal Funding**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which deemed HR 1 (2011), the Republican FY2011 Continuing Resolution, as law and would have prevented lawmakers and the president from receiving pay if the government was shut down for more than 24 hours.

The legislation would have enacted HR 1 into law if the Senate had not passed a bill to fund the government through the rest of Fiscal Year 2011 by April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

According to the Los Angeles Times, “Another section tried to revive a House spending plan that was killed by the Senate last month. Under the resolution passed Friday, the dead bill would come back to life and become law, without the president’s signature, if the Senate does not pass a bill funding the government for the rest of the 2011. The Senate would need to act by Wednesday.” [[Los Angeles Times, 4/01/11](#)]

According to Republican Congressman Louie Gohmert from Texas during a floor speech on this bill, “[...] for a bill to say provisions that pass the House are hereby enacted into law violates my conscience and the Constitution.” [[Congressional Record, p. H2245, 4/01/11](#)]

The bill passed 221-202. [HR 1255, [Vote #224](#), 4/01/11]

### **Voted against a Motion to Recommit that would have Provided Pay to Service Members during a Government Shutdown**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion to recommit which would have ensured that Service Members would have gotten paid in the event of a government shutdown.

The motion would have added a new section to the bill providing that the salaries of the members of the armed forces would not be interrupted in the event of a government shutdown.

The motion failed 191-236. [HR 1363, [Vote #246](#), 4/07/11]

### **Voted to Shut Down Government**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a federal funding measure that was designed to avert a government shutdown.

The bill not only included nine outstanding appropriations bills, but extended unemployment insurance and a payroll tax break for 160 million working Americans through February 2012.

At issue was how to fund the spending plan. Democrats were hoping to impose a surtax on people earning \$1 million or more per year, while Republicans mainly wanted to cover the \$120 billion cost by reducing unemployment benefits and freezing federal workers’ pay. With the two parties locked in a stalemate, the bill was struck as a compromise and a means to prevent the government from shutting down. [[ABC News, 12/13/11](#); [LA Times, 12/15/11](#); [ABC News, 12/16/11](#); [Bloomberg, 12/20/11](#); [CQ Bill Analysis, 2/02/12](#)]

The bill passed 296-121. [HR 2055, [Vote #941](#), 12/16/11]

## Guns / Hunting Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Supported an increase in concealed carry permits*
- ✓ *Life-long member of the National Rifle Association*

**Scott Tipton advocated for an increase in the number of concealed carry permits.  
He is a life long member of the National Rifle Association.**

### **Supported an Increase in Concealed Carry Permits**

In 2010, Scott Tipton advocated for legislation that would increase the number of conceal carry permits available. [votetipton.com, accessed 7/1/11]

### **Lifelong Member of the NRA**

Scott Tipton is a lifelong member of the NRA. [votetipton.com, accessed 7/1/11]

### **Said Making UN Gun Treaty a Campaign Issue Was a “Red Herring”**

In June 2010, Tipton accused his primary challenger Bob McConnell of making a proposed UN gun treaty a “red herring.”

“I’d remind (McConnell) that the United States happens to be a sovereign country,” Tipton added. “We do not bow to the U.N.” [Durango Herald, 6/23/10]

### **Endorsed by Firearms Coalition**

In October 2010, the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition endorsed Tipton in his bid for Congress. The PPFC urged financial support and the PPFC PAC Steering Committee donated \$200 each to Tipton’s campaign. [PPFC Newsletter, 10/2010]

## Health Care Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Voted to repeal Affordable Care Act*
- ✓ *Voted to Privatize Medicare by voting for the Ryan Budget*
- ✓ *Accepted campaign donations from company pushing for higher prescription drug prices*
- ✓ *Claimed seniors lost their health care because of the Affordable Care Act*
- ✓ *President of Colorado Medical Society urged Tipton to “come clean” on healthcare reform*
- ✓ *Vowed to protect Medicare from cuts*
- ✓ *Vowed to protect Medicare from privatization*
- ✓ *Accused Salazar of voting to cut \$500 billion from Medicare*
- ✓ *Voted against Medicaid benefits for legal immigrants without first having a waiting period*

Scott Tipton was criticized by the President of the Colorado Medical Society for not being up front with people of his district about health care reform. He campaigned against the Affordable Care Act, saying a piece of America “will die” with its enactment. He subsequently voted on multiple occasions to defund and repeal the Affordable Care Act. Tipton promised to protect Medicare from privatization as well as from funding cuts. During his 2010 campaign, he criticized John Salazar for voting to cut \$500 billion from Medicare with the Affordable Care Act. However, in 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget, which would privatize Medicare, turning it into a voucher program to purchase private insurance. Tipton claimed that seniors and children have lost health care coverage as a result of the Affordable Care Act. Scott Tipton voted against legal immigrant receiving Medicaid benefits without first having a waiting period.

### Voted Against Medical Benefits for Legal Immigrants Without Waiting Period

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that would provide medical benefits under Medicaid and the Children's Basic Health Plan to pregnant women and children who are legal immigrants without a waiting period.

Before the bill, legal immigrants were not eligible for either program for five years after date of entry to the U.S.

The bill passed the House, 46-19. [HB09-1353, House Journal page 1594, 4/29/09]

### **Supported Medicaid Eligibility and Programs**

In 2009, Tipton voted for a bill to allow people who are in need of long-term care to be presumptively eligible for Medicaid, including for home- and community-based service programs.

The bill passed the House, 61-4. [HB09-1103, House Journal page 288, 2/09/09]

Tipton also voted for the bill with Senate amendments. [HB09-1103, House Journal page 718, 3/13/09]

### **Voted For Spinal Cord Care for Medicaid Patients**

In 2009, Tipton voted for a bill to establish a pilot program allowing Medicaid patients with spinal cord injuries to receive complementary or alternative therapies. These patients, eligible for Home- and Community-Based Services, could receive chiropractic care, massage, and acupuncture.

The bill passed with the Senate amendments, 60-5. [HB09-1047, House Journal page 1759, 5/05/09]

### **Accused Salazar of Voting to Reduce Medicare by \$500 Billion**

In 2010, Tipton accused Salazar of voting to cut \$500 billion dollars from Medicare.

"John Salazar's voted with Nancy Pelosi for a budget with a trillion-dollar deficit, he voted for a failed \$787 billion stimulus and he voted to increase the national debt ceiling to over \$14 trillion. Then he voted to reduce Medicare by over \$500 billion." [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/16/10]

### **Vowed to Protect Medicare from Cuts**

In 2010, in front of a group of seniors in Steel City, Tipton vowed to protect Medicare from any cuts. In doing so, he repeated his charge that Salazar and Democrats want to cut \$500 billion from Medicare -- a cut that Tipton said would hurt seniors. The part of the legislation calls for reducing the growth in Medicare expenses by \$500 billion over 10 years by eliminating fraud and waste. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/29/10]

### **President of Colorado Medical Society: "We Don't Have to End Medicare"**

In June 2011, the President of the Colorado Medical Society Mark Pramenko spoke out against scheme to end Medicare.

“We don’t have to end Medicare. We can save Medicare,” said Dr. Parmenko

### **Tipton Responded to President of Colorado Medical Society by Talking about Employment**

In 2011, Tipton responded to the President of the Colorado Medical Society’s questions about ending Medicare by saying that there were multiple opinions on the issue and then going to discuss employment.

“There are a number of different economic analysts out there trying to piece together the best solution to address spending, the debt ceiling and Medicare. At the end of the day, this is about getting our economy out from under the crushing weight of double-digit unemployment and jump-starting job creation,” responded Tipton. [[Daily Sentinel, 6/9/2011](#)]

### **Voted for Ryan’s Budget Plan**

In 2011, Tipton voted to support the Ryan Budget Plan, which would turn Medicare into a voucher program and reduce the corporate and personal tax rate to 25 percent, down from 35 percent. [H Con. Res. 34, [Vote #277](#), 4/15/11]

### **Ends Medicare By Creating a Voucher Program**

In 2011, Tipton voted for the Ryan Budget, which would essentially end Medicare by turning it into a voucher program instead of a program that directly pays their bills. [Wall Street Journal, [4/4/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Protecting Social Security and Medicare Benefits from Privatization**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have prohibited continuing appropriations funds for fiscal year 2011 for being used in developing or implementing a system that cuts Social Security benefits or that privatizes Social Security.

The amendment also prohibited funds from being used to develop or implement a system that cuts Medicare benefits, eliminates guaranteed health coverage for seniors or establishes a Medicare voucher plan that limits payments to beneficiaries in order to purchase health care in the private sector.

The motion failed, 190-239. [HJR 48, [Vote #178](#), 2/15/11]

### **Supported Postponing the Medicare Part D Enrollment Deadline**

In 2006, Tipton supported postponing the May 15, 2006 deadline for seniors to enroll in Medicare Part D prescription drug program. [[The Hill](#), 5/10/06]

### **Voted to Repeal Affordable Care Act While Supporting Key Provisions of the Law**

In 2010, Tipton voted to repeal the Affordable Care Act while still supporting several key provisions of the legislation.

In a news release, Tipton said he supported parts of the bill like coverage of pre-existing conditions and allowing 26-year-olds to stay on their parents' health plans.

"The focus needs to be on reform that promotes personal control through market-based solutions, increases portability of coverage, cuts costs, prevents lawsuit abuse, and decreases the size of government," he said. [[Durango Herald](#), 1/19/10]

### **Repealing Health Care Reform Would Re-Legalize Allowing Insurance Companies to Drop Coverage for People with Pre-Existing Conditions**

In March 2010, the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) reported that six months after the Health Care Legislation is signed, health plans would be prohibited from excluding children who have preexisting conditions. In 2014, this prohibition would be extended to adults. That year, insurers would no longer be allowed to set annual limits, rescind coverage, or impose excessive waiting periods before coverage starts. [[Philadelphia Inquirer](#), 3/22/10]

#### **... Including Children**

According to the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#), six months after health care legislation was signed, health plans would be prohibited from excluding children who have preexisting conditions. [[Philadelphia Inquirer](#), 3/22/10]

#### **... Including Pregnant Women**

According to PolitiFact.com, pregnancy was considered a pre-existing condition.

"But for now, Rohack is correct that pregnancy is considered a pre-existing condition and prevents many women from getting coverage if they seek insurance on the individual market," the website explained. [[politifact.com](#), [8/18/09](#)]

#### **... Including Breast Cancer Survivors**

According to PolitiFact.com, cancer was considered a pre-existing condition. [[politifact.com](#), [8/18/09](#)]

And according to [U.S. News](#), breast cancer was specifically considered a pre-existing condition.

"Starting in 2014, insurers won't be able to deny applicants based on, say, an earlier diagnosis of breast cancer," the story reported. [[usnews.com](#), [1/14/11](#)]

#### **... Though Repeal Would Make Millions of Seniors Pay More for Prescription Drugs**

If Tipton gets his way, millions of seniors would pay more for prescription drugs.

#### **Repealing Legislation Would Re-Enact the Donut Hole for Seniors**

In March 2010, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported that Medicare seniors with Medicare prescription coverage prior to the signing of the Health Care Legislation must pay out of their pocket for drug spending that falls between \$2,830 and \$6,440 because of the “doughnut hole” in the Medicare law.

Seniors who hit this “idiosyncratic feature” this in 2010 would get a \$250 rebate. In 2011, the gap would be reduced through a discount on brand-name drugs. By 2020, it should be eliminated, although seniors would still have to pay 25 percent of their prescription-drug costs. [Philadelphia Inquirer, 3/22/10]

### **... Which Involved About 4 Million Seniors**

As of June 2010, the Department of Health and Human Services estimated that approximately 4 million seniors would get the 2010 rebates for falling into the doughnut hole. [cnn.com, [6/07/10](#)]

### **... Though Repeal Would Lose Tax Breaks for Small Businesses**

If Tipton gets his way, small businesses would lose tax breaks that help make health insurance more affordable.

#### **Repealing Legislation Would Eliminate Tax Breaks for Small Businesses**

Businesses with fewer than 25 Employees and average wages of less than \$50,000 could qualify for a tax credit of up to 35 percent of the cost of the premiums. [MSNBC, 3/22/10]

### **... Though Repeal Would Prevent Young People From Staying on Parents' Plans**

If Tipton gets his way, young people would not be able to stay on their parents' plans until age 26.

#### **Repealing Healthcare Reform Would Prevent Dependent Children from Staying on Parents' Plans Until Age 26**

According to 2010 analysis by Kaiser Health News, under healthcare reform, dependent children could remain on their parents' health insurance plans until age 26. [msnbc.com, [3/22/10](#)]

### **... Though Repealing Health Care Could Eliminate Up to 400,000 Jobs**

According to the Center for American Progress, the repeal of health insurance reform could eliminate 250,000 to 400,000 jobs annually over the next ten years. [Center for American Progress, [1/07/11](#)]

### **... Though Repeal Would Add \$230 Billion to the Deficit**

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the repeal of health care reform would increase the deficit by \$230 billion by 2021. The CBO's previous score of the Affordable Health Care Act had it decreasing the deficit by \$143 billion over 10 years. [Politico, [1/06/11](#)]

## **Voted to Repeal Health Care, Put Insurance Industry in Charge of Americans' Health**

In 2011, Tipton voted to repeal the historic health care reform bill passed the previous year.

"If we repeal health reform there will be no prohibition on discrimination against over 100 million Americans with pre-existing conditions, no prohibition on insurance companies canceling your coverage when you get sick, no prohibition on lifetime caps and annual limits, no required coverage for young adults on their parents' policy," said Rep. Henry Waxman. [CQ Today, 1/19/11]

The American Medical Association and the AARP both opposed repealing the health care law. Out of several industry groups, only the U.S. Chamber of Commerce supported the repeal bill. [[The Hill](#), 1/19/11]

For Colorado's 3rd Congressional District, repealing health insurance reform could:

- Allow insurance companies to deny coverage to 122,000 to 310,000 individuals, including 9,000 to 39,000 children, with pre-existing conditions.
  - Rescind consumer protections for 362,000 individuals who have health insurance through their employer or the market for private insurance.
  - Eliminate health care tax credits for up to 24,400 small businesses and 184,000 families.
  - Increase prescription drug costs for 9,100 seniors who hit the Part D drug "donut hole" and deny new preventive care benefits to 106,000 seniors.
  - Increase the costs of early retiree coverage for up to 10,300 early retirees.
  - Eliminate new health care coverage options for 2,600 uninsured young adults.
  - Increase the number of people without health insurance by 100,000 individuals.
  - Increase the costs to hospitals of providing uncompensated care by \$84 million annually.
- [Energy and Commerce Committee analysis, 1/18/11]

The bill passed, 245-189. [HR 2, [Vote #14](#), 1/19/11]

## **Opposed Legislation to Cover Uninsured Coloradoans**

In March 2009, Tipton opposed House Bill 1293, legislation designed to cover the uninsured and increase payments to doctors. The legislation charged hospitals a fee and later matched that fee number with federal dollars. Estimates suggested that the legislation would cover up to 100,000 uninsured. [[Durango Herald](#), 3/26/09]

## **Wanted to "Incentivize" People to Make their Own Healthcare Choices**

In 2010, in discussing health care reform, Tipton suggested that Congress repeal the Affordable Care Act and "incentivize people to make their own healthcare choice." [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 09/22/10]

## **Proposed Purchasing Health Insurance Across State Lines**

In 2010, in discussing health care reform, Tipton suggested that people be allowed to purchase health insurance across state lines. [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/22/10]

### **Proposed Tax Breaks Instead of Affordable Care Act**

In 2010, Tipton supported redoing much of the health care overhaul (calling it “disastrous”) so that it included tax breaks for people who purchase health care. He said people who buy their own health insurance should get the same tax breaks that companies receive when providing insurance to employees. [Congressional Quarterly, 11/03/10]

### **Accepted Campaign Donations from Company Pushing for Higher Prescription Drug Prices**

On September 27, 2010, Tipton’s campaign accepted \$2,500 in campaign donations from Express Scripts, a pharmacy benefits management company. [CQ Money Line, accessed 6/29/11]

### **Express Scripts Pushed for Higher Prescription Drug Prices**

In June 2011, Walgreens refused to sign a deal with Express Scripts because Express Scripts was pushing Walgreens not to give its clients such low discounts on prescription drugs.

At issue are the discounts Walgreen offers Express Scripts clients. Express Scripts said Walgreen gives its clients lower discounts than other drugstores do and wants it to accept market rates. [Reuters, 6/23/11]

### **Supported Small Business Insurance Pools to Lower Healthcare Costs**

In October 2006, Tipton expressed his support for small business insurance pooling to give individual companies more economy of scale in purchasing coverage. [Montrose Daily Press, 9/07/06]

### **Affordable Care Act Was “The Straw That Broke the Camel’s Back”**

In 2009, Tipton criticized Salazar for voting for the Affordable Care Act, saying his vote “was the straw that broke the camel’s back.”

“Now we’re moving to a government-run health care system,” Tipton argued. [Pueblo Chieftain, 11/12/09]

### **... “Punitive” for its “Cuts” to Medicare Benefits**

In 2009, Tipton criticized the Affordable Care Act a “punitive” piece of legislation that would cut Medicare benefits.

“That will be punitive. They are talking about cutting \$500 million from Medicare. No one can look me in the eye and tell us how this will create any more efficiency,” Tipton said. [Pueblo Chieftain, 11/12/09]

### **... Would Create “A State of Permanent Dependency”**

In 2010, Tipton criticized Salazar's vote for the Affordable Care Act saying "Obamacare is a tangled mess of taxes, mandates, subsidies and regulations that is expected to cost \$2.5 trillion over 10 years once fully implemented."

"It would create a state of permanent dependency as an increasingly larger portion of the population relied on government largesse for their needs ..." [Durango Herald, 3/22/10]

### **... "A Piece of America Will Die" with Affordable Care Act**

In 2010, Tipton said that the Affordable Care Act was "a tangled mess" of mandates, taxes and subsidies that would further undermine individual liberty and responsibility. He dismissed last week's Congressional Budget Office report that the legislation would reduce the federal deficit in the next decade, saying it would cost \$2.5 trillion instead.

"With this vote, a little piece of America will die," Tipton said in a statement. [Pueblo Chieftain, 3/24/10]

### **...Would Take Away \$500 Billion from Seniors**

In 2010, during an interview on Fox News, Tipton said that the Affordable Care Act took away \$500 billion from seniors.

"He (John Salazar) voted for Obamacare, taking away \$500 billion from senior citizens, adding another one trillion-plus dollar on the backs of the American taxpayer." [Fox News Channel "Happening Now" Interview, 10/14/10]

### **...Is "Government-Run" Medicine**

In 2010, in front of a group of seniors in Steel City, Tipton called the Affordable Care Act "government run" medicine. He went on to ask the group:

"Don't you want to make your own choice instead of some government bureaucrat deciding whether you can get a hip replacement?" [Pueblo Chieftain, 10/29/10]

## **Claimed Seniors Lost their Health Care because Affordable Care Act**

In 2011, Scott Tipton claimed that he had spoken with senior citizens who had lost their health care coverage, blaming the loss of coverage on the Affordable Care Act.

"I just got off the phone with...senior citizens who have just lost their health care coverage, some young folks who have seen double digit increases in their health care costs. So as entrenched as the President may well be in terms of worrying about what his legacy might be, we have people who are worried about a different legacy and it's called the hardworking men and women of this country and their children and grandchildren." [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

## **Accessibility to Healthcare in Rural Colorado Major Issue for Tipton**

In January 2011, Tipton cited access to rural healthcare as one of his major issues of concern saying that it “simply is not there.”

Tipton sought to create financial incentives to doctors who were willing to practice in under-served areas. [Durango Herald, [1/18/11](#)]

### **Voted To Keep Congressional Healthcare Benefits for Members of Congress**

In January 2011, Tipton voted against a motion that would not allow Congress to repeal the health reform bill without a majority of members of the House and Senate agreeing to forgo federal benefits themselves.

The motion to recommit instructed the repeal bill to be sent back to three committees and altered to require a majority of House and Senate members to give up federal health care benefits before repeal could take place. [[The Hill](#), [1/19/11](#)]

The bill failed, 185-245, without a two-thirds majority required for bills under suspension rules. [H.R. 2, [Vote #13](#), 1/19/11]

### **Voted to Keep Federal Health Care Benefits a Secret**

In January 2011, Tipton voted against requiring the disclosure of whether Members were enrolling in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program.

The bill failed, 191-238,. [H Res 5, [Vote #5](#), 1/05/11]

### **Voted to Cut Off Funding to Implement Health Care Reform Law**

In 2011, Tipton voted to bar the use of funds to carry out the provisions of the 2010 health care reform bill and its reconciliation measures, or any amendment made by those laws.

The amendment was adopted, 241-187. [HR 1, King amendment #267, [Vote #98](#), 2/18/11]

Tipton also voted to prohibit the use of funds to pay the salary of any officer or employee of the federal government to implement the provisions of the health care reform bill.

That amendment was adopted, 237-191. [HR 1, King amendment #268, [Vote #99](#), 2/18/11]

### **President of the Colorado Medical Society Requested Meetings to Discuss Healthcare**

In April 2011, the President of the Colorado Medical Society requested to meet with Tipton so that they could continue to discuss healthcare reform. [[Denver Post](#), 4/07/11]

### **President of Colorado Medical Society Urged Tipton to “Come Clean” on Healthcare Reform**

In June 2011, Dr. Mark Pramenko, president of the Colorado Medical Society, urged Tipton to conduct a town hall meeting on health care to discuss the issues as well as healthcare reform.

“He’s got to come clean with the folks in his district,” said Dr. Pramenko

Tipton’s office commented that he would consider a town hall “when the right time comes.” [[Daily Sentinel, 6/9/2011](#)]

### **Voted to Implement “Stop-Gap” Limited-Benefit Health Plans**

In 2009, Tipton voted for a bill to let HMOs implement low-cost, limited-benefit health plans with caps in benefits between \$30,000 and \$100,000. The plans would cover doctors’ visits, prescription drugs and routine care, but not for catastrophic illnesses.

While supporting the bill, the [Rocky Mountain News](#) called the bill a “minor fix.” [[Rocky Mountain News, Editorial, 2/20/09](#)]

Democrats said that the bill fell far short of an ideal, comprehensive care bill but welcomed something was “better than nothing.” Representative Mike Merrifield warned colleagues that passing such a “stop-gap” measure would distract the legislature from finding “a true solution” for the uninsured or underinsured. [[Rocky Mountain News, 2/11/09](#)]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 43-20. [HB09-1143, House Journal page 894, 3/25/09]

### **Opposed Providing Domestic Partners of State Employees with Health Insurance Coverage**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that added domestic partners to the list of dependents of state employees eligible for health insurance coverage.

Domestic partners, for the purposes of the bill, was defined as a same sex individual, involved in a committed relationship for at least a year but with the intention to indefinitely, and who is not married to another person. [2009 Digest of Bills]

“Public and private employers across the country recognize partner benefits as an inexpensive option to attract and retain the best employees and to promote fairness and equality in the workplace,” Ritter spokesman Evan Dreyer wrote in an e-mail after the bill was signed. [[Denver Post, 5/21/09](#)]

The bill passed the House, 34-30. [SB09-88, House Journal page 1521, 4/28/09]

### **Opposed Funding Traumatic Brain Injury Fund**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that increased charges on traffic violations and applied the funds to the Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury Trust Fund. Surcharges were increased by \$5 for a number of violations including driving under the influence and speeding.

Revenue to the TBI program and trust fund was approximately \$2 million annually and supported brain research, education and services. [SB09-133 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/10/09; 2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed the House, 48-16. [SB09-133, House Journal page 1528, 4/28/09]

## **Voted Against Protecting Autism Coverage**

In 2009, Tipton voted against requiring group health insurance policies to provide coverage for applied behavior analysis for autism spectrum disorders.

The bill outlined that insurance carriers could not deny coverage for the treatment of ASD or refuse to renew coverage due to ASD diagnosis. According to bill co-author state Representative Dianne Primavera, the bill was only the eleventh of its type to pass in the United States. [SB09-244 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 5/01/09; [Daily Camera](#), Primavera LTTE, 6/18/09]

The bill passed the House, 45-20. [SB09-244, House Journal page 1679, 5/04/09]

## **Got Award for Protecting Seniors from “Sham Front Group” Called RetireSafe**

In 2011, Tipton got an award for protecting seniors from a “sham front group.” The Colorado Independent reported the award Tipton received from a group called RetireSafe was “fake, or at least the group that gave the award was fake.” RetireSafe is an industry front group run by Republican and conservative politics figures and founded by Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America. The Colorado Independent reported the award sounded a lot like an endorsement that could come from one of dozens of other seniors groups, can then be used as a credential on the campaign trail. [Colorado Independent, 12/9/11]

## **Accused Obama of Playing Politics with Social Security During Debt Ceiling Negotiations**

In 2011, Tipton lashed out at the president and said Obama should stop “playing politics” with Social Security during debt ceiling negotiations. Tipton said in a statement that House Republicans “have put forward a plan to end Washington’s spending spree, begin to pay down out unsustainable debt, preserve Medicare and Social Security, and jumpstart growth in our economy...It is unacceptable that the President and Treasury Secretary Geithner are playing politics with the livelihoods of more than 70 million Americans.” [Blog, Allison Sherry, [Denver Post](#), [7/12/11](#)]

## **Tipton Claimed That Lack of Debt Ceiling Deal Did Not Put Seniors Social Security at Risk**

During a 2011 telephone town hall meeting Tipton claimed that even if a debt ceiling deal was not reached senior citizens and military personnel would get their Social Security, Medicare and military paychecks. During the call Tipton told an elderly caller concerned about receiving Social Security disability payments that he would not support any budget proposal that would do that to current senior. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), [7/27/11](#)]

## **Defended Cut Cap and Balance Plan that Would Cut Military and Social Security**

In 2011, Tipton defended the “cut, cap and balance” plan on the House floor saying it would limit federal spending and require a balanced budget. “I hope that our American citizenry will rise to this challenge,” Tipton said. “We need to let the Senate of the United States and the president of the United States know that we will be holding them accountable.” The Durango Herald reported “The plan would cut \$3.7 trillion out of the deficit over a decade, and the cuts would include the military and, eventually, Social Security.” [[Durango Herald](#), [7/20/11](#)]

## **Claimed Healthcare Caused Budget Problems and Seniors Were Loosing Healthcare as a Result of Reform**

The host asked Tipton if Republicans would have removed the riders that would defund Planned Parenthood, abortion, NPR, and Obamacare if the Democrats agreed to the full \$61 billion in cuts. Tipton said “You know I think as you noted just earlier, it’s the beginning of this, and it’s kind of a chess match that’s going on. There’s a lot of patience on the Republican side that we can kick the can a little bit further down the road, but we’re still ultimately going to have to deal with this. Part of the problem with Obamacare is we’ve discovered, for those of us who weren’t here Washington, that we have a \$100 million dollar bill that we’re going to have to pay that we simply cannot afford and its killing jobs in this country. Maybe his signature piece of legislation, which is not up to us...it isn’t working.”

He went on to say “I just got off the phone with...senior citizens who have just lost their health care coverage, some young folks who have seen double digit increases in their health care costs, so as entrenched as the President may well be in terms of worrying about what his legacy might be, we have people who are worried about a different legacy and it’s called the hardworking men and women of this country and their children and grandchildren.” [The Cari and Rob Show, 39:50, [4/7/11](#)]

## **Wanted to Repeal 1099 Requirement in Health Care Law**

In February 2011, Tipton stated, “Repealing the 1099 requirement is a good start, and our focus must remain on restoring a stable economic climate that is not rife with the uncertainty overregulation, so that small business-the backbone of our economy-can do what it does best: create jobs and grow our economy.” [[newsfirst5.com](#), 2/10/11]

## **Toured Mosaic Center for Developmentally Disabled and Said it Would Help Guide His Decisions**

In March 2011, Tipton toured the Mosaic center, a non-profit with programs for the intellectually disabled. Tipton said he was impressed with the services the organization was able to provide despite cuts.

“It certainly helps us to be able to come out into the communities and to be able to see fine organizations like this and others, what’s being done, and how they can help guide our decisions as well,” said Tipton. [[News11](#), [3/25/11](#)]

## **Mosaic Partnered with Federal Organizations to Get Services to Intellectually Disabled Through HUD**

On their website Mosaic said they partnered with federal, state and local funding sources to get people with developmental disabilities housing. They listed HUD Section 811 and the Affordable Housing Program as partner programs. [Mosaic, accessed [3/30/11](#)]

## **Voted for HR 1, Which Cut Millions from Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program**

In 2011, HUD issued a press release on the effects of HR 1 on housing programs. The release said HR1 would “Cut the Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program by 70%, from \$300 million down to \$90 million.” [HR 1, Vote #147 , 2/19/11; HUD, [2/16/11](#)]

### **Hypocrite; Took Government-Funded Health Care**

In January 2011, Scott Tipton’s spokesman said he was on the federal insurance plan despite the fact that he ran against healthcare reform and voted against it. [[Coloradoan](#), 1/28/11]

### **Voted to Eliminate the Disease Prevention and Public Health Fund**

In 2011, Tipton voted to repeal the Prevention and Public Health Fund which was created by the Affordable Care Act and would have received almost \$18 billion dollars in the years to come. [[Roll Call](#), [4/13/11](#)]

The goal of the Prevention and Public Health Fund was to provide funds to communities and states to prevent chronic diseases. [[CQ House Action Report](#), [4/11/11](#)]

According to Dr. Jeff Susman, the Editor-in-Chief at the Journal of Family Practice, “[... T]his fund supports: training and development of primary care providers to use evidence-based interventions to address tobacco control, obesity prevention, and HIV-related health disparities; integration of primary care and behavioral health care; promotion of healthy lifestyles and activities aimed at reducing obesity-related conditions and costs, including the First Lady’s “Let’s Move!” initiative; implementation of anti-tobacco media campaigns, telephone-based smoking cessation service, and outreach programs targeting vulnerable populations [...] [[Journal of Family Practice](#), Editorial, 5/01/11 ]

The bill passed 236-183. [HR 1217, [Vote #264](#), 4/13/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which would have changed the funding for the Prevention and Public Health Fund from mandatory to discretionary spending and specified that the fund would be used for prevention, wellness and public health activities for people 65 and older. The motion failed 189-234. [HR 1217, [Vote #263](#), 4/13/11]

### **Voted Against Helping States Provide Health Insurance Exchanges**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill eliminating funding to help states set up insurance exchanges created by the 2010 healthcare reform law.

The bill repealed funds designed to help states set up the required insurance exchanges created by the Affordable Care Act in 2010. This bill would have only removed the federal funding designated to help the states set up exchanges and would not have removed the mandate for the state insurance exchanges. [[The Hill](#), [5/03/11](#); [Politico](#), [5/03/11](#)]

The bill passed 238-183. [HR 1213, [Vote #285](#), 5/03/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which required insurance plans offered under the state insurance exchanges to disclose how much of an impact pre-existing conditions have had on premiums and policy denials.

The motion failed 190-231. [HR 1213, [Vote #284](#), 5/03/11]

### **Voted to Stop Construction of School-based Health Facilities**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which repealed funds allocated in the Affordable Care Act for the construction of school-based health facilities.

The bill would eliminate a \$50 million dollar per year program designed to build school-based health facilities which was created by the Affordable Care Act in 2010. This is one of a group of bills intended to repeal the Affordable Care Act one piece at a time rather than using a comprehensive bill. [[The Hill, 5/04/11](#); [The Hill; 5/08/11](#)]

Part of the funds for this program were dispensed on July 14, 2011. \$95 million was awarded to 278 school-based health center programs which could help them increase the number of patients annually they see from 790,000 to 123,000. [[HHS.gov, 7/14/11](#)]

The bill passed 235-191. [HR 1214, [Vote #290](#), 5/04/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which required the Department of Health and Human Services to compile and make public the list of applicants for school-based health center construction. A list of 278 schools who received funding on July 14, 2011 was published with a press release from Health and Human services.

The motion failed 180-230. [HR 1214, [Vote #289](#), 5/04/11; HHS.gov; [7/14/11](#)]

## Voted Against Prioritizing Underserved Communities When Funding Health Centers

In 2011, Tipton voted against prioritizing underserved communities when providing funds for qualified teaching health centers.

The motion would have amended the underlying bill to require that the Secretary of Health and Human Services prioritize underserved communities when determining the allotment of funding for qualified teaching health centers. [CQ Floor Votes, 5/25/11]

The motion failed, 184-263. [HR 1216, [Vote #339](#), 5/25/11]

Tipton then voted for the bill which eliminated a mandatory \$230 million appropriation for qualified teaching health centers to expand or establish programs to provide training to medical residents. It was the fourth in a series of five GOP measures aimed at repealing or adjusting mandatory funding for programs under the 2010 health care overhaul law. [CQ Weekly, [5/30/11](#); HR 1216, [Vote #340](#), 5/25/11]

## Health Care Issues – Children’s Health

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Claimed the Affordable Care Act led to Insurance companies dropping child-only health care plans*
- ✓ *Voted against expanding coverage for uninsured children*

**Scott Tipton claimed that the Affordable Care Act was the cause for health insurance companies dropping child-only insurance plans. However, Tipton voted the year before against expanding coverage for uninsured children at the state level.**

## Blamed Salazar When Health Insurance Companies Stopped Selling Child-Only Plans

In 2010, Tipton said that health insurance companies that stopped selling child-only plans were a product of the “unintended consequences of Obamacare,” criticizing Salazar for voting for the legislation.

“It’s truly unfortunate when you see those who need health insurance get denied coverage,” Tipton said.

“As the unintended consequences of Obamacare continue to unravel, we’ll see more insurers, patients, doctors and small businesses reacting in a similar way to the heavy hand of government.” [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/09/10]

## Insurance Companies Dropped Coverage to Protect from Parents Enrolling Sick Children

In 2010, the [Pueblo Chieftain](#) reported that among the reasons industry officials gave for leaving the child-only insurance market was the expense. The new federal law did not require a limited enrollment period and insurance companies feared parents would wait until their children were sick before purchasing a guaranteed coverage policy. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 10/09/10]

### **Voted For Delaying Eligibility Expansion**

In 2009, Tipton voted for delaying the implementation of a 2008 bill expanding eligibility and increasing mental health benefits for the Children's Basic Health Plan in 2009 to lower costs.

The Legislative Council's office prepared a fiscal note expecting a decrease by \$30,328 in state cash funds revenue for fiscal year 2008-09 and by \$31,069 for the following fiscal year if delayed. [SB09-211 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 4/22/09]

The bill passed the House, 49-16. [SB09-211, House Journal page 494, 2/24/09]

### **Voted Against Covering Cost of Uninsured, Expanding Program for Children**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill designed to allow hospitals to charge provider fees to cover the cost of caring for uninsured patients and to help ensure hospital care continues to be available.

Supporters said that the bill would help keep health care costs down and reduce the number of people seeking care in emergency rooms.

The bill, as passed by the House, would bolster the state Medicaid and Child Health Plan Plus programs and provided enhanced funding for the Medicaid system and for the Colorado Indigent Care Program. [[Colorado Statesman](#), 3/27/09]

The bill passed the House with Senate amendments, 40-24. [HB09-1293, House Journal page 1130, 4/09/09]

## Immigration Issues

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Proposed the National Guard train along the southern border to protect the U.S. from illegal immigration*
- ✓ *Promised to stand with Tancredo on illegal immigration issues*
- ✓ *Opposed President Bush's amnesty plan*
- ✓ *Supported the Red Card Solution for immigration reform*
- ✓ *Supported putting a fence along the U.S.-Mexico border*
- ✓ *Proposed a "virtual wall" protect the U.S.-Mexico border*

Scott Tipton suggested in 2006 that National Guardsmen train in the south along the border to deter illegal immigrants from crossing the border. He also promised to stand with Colorado Congressman Tom Tancredo on the issue of immigration. Tancredo proposed mass deportation for illegal immigrants. Tipton opposed President George W. Bush's amnesty plan and later supported the "Red Card Solution" plan for immigration reform. He has proposed that the United States build a virtual wall that would electronically detect when someone has crossed into the United States.

### **Wanted National Guard to Train in the South While also Combating Illegal Immigration**

In 2006, Tipton suggested sending National Guardsman to train while at the same time guard the border.

"They would not only train, but deter those who wish to enter illegally or cross the border to do harm...It makes no sense to have the National Guard training somewhere in the Midwest when they could be doing the same thing along our southern border," Tipton said. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 4/09/06]

### **Tipton: 6,000 National Guards to U.S. Border "A Good Start...But Not Enough"**

In May 2006, Tipton said that President Bush's proposal to send 6,000 National Guard troops to the southern border was "a good start," but went on to say that 6,000 troops probably wouldn't be enough. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 5/17/06]

### **Supported Increased Border Security with the National Guard Patrolling the Borders**

In 2006, Tipton supported immigration reform that called for increased border security and National Guardsmen patrolling the borders. [[Denver Post](#), 9/10/06]

### **Agreed with Tancredo on No Amnesty for Illegal Immigrants**

In 2006, Tipton agreed with Tancredo who, in opposition to the Bush administration, believed there should be no guest worker program established until illegal immigration was stopped and illegal workers deported. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/11/06]

### **Would Join Tancredo if Elected to Congress in Securing the Border**

In August 2006, Tipton, at a rally with Tom Tancredo, expressed his commitment to a secure border with a fence.

Tancredo endorsed Tipton saying he would be a reliable vote for border security. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 8/11/06]

### **Opposed President Bush's Amnesty Plan**

In 2005, Tipton did not support President Bush's immigration plan that would grant amnesty to illegal immigrants calling it "slap in the face" to legal immigrants and citizens. He went on to criticize Salazar for not protecting the border. Tipton said the border should first be secured and "then we'll deal with the other issues." [[National Journal](#), 5/17/06]

### **Supported "Red Card Solution" for Immigration Reform Promoted by the Krieble Foundation**

In 2010, Tipton supported a plan promoted by the Colorado-based Krieble Foundation, called the "Red Card Solution." Under the plan, work permits or red cards, would be issued in foreign countries and tied to specific U.S. businesses. The number of permits would fluctuate with supply and demand in the U.S. economy, and employers would be punished for hiring immigrants who did not have a work permit. [[Durango Herald](#), 8/23/10]

### **Supported Putting a Fence along the Mexican Border**

In 2006, Tipton supported the Safe Fence Act, which would build a fence along the U.S.-Mexico border.

"We need to secure our borders to stop the flow of illegal immigrants, to protect us from terrorists and to stop the flow of illegal drugs such as (methamphetamine) into our communities," he said in a statement. "If I were able to cast a vote on the House floor today, I can assure you I would have voted for the Safe Fence Act."

Debate on the exact cost ranged from \$2 billion (Republican estimates) to \$7 billion (Democratic estimates). [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 9/15/06]

### **Proposed "Virtual" Wall to Protect U.S. Border**

In 2006, Tipton supported building a “virtual” wall along the border that would use sensors to detect when someone crossed the border.

According to [The Daily Sentinel](#), Tipton's plan involved a guest-worker program that calls for sending undocumented workers back to their home countries and requiring they apply to return to the United States. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 4/09/06]

### **Suggested Creating an ICE Program to Match Guest Workers with Employers**

In 2006, according to [The Daily Sentinel](#), Tipton suggested creating an agency within U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement that matched employers looking for jobs with guest workers. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 4/09/06]

### **Supported a Pseudo-Guest Worker Program**

In 2006, Tipton called for tighter border security as a first priority, saying he also opposed amnesty. However, he also said it is unrealistic to expect all 11 million illegal immigrants to be returned to Mexico or their native country before participating in a guest worker program, which both farmers and ranchers needed, said Tipton. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 9/15/06]

### **Guest Worker Program After Secure Borders**

In 2006, Tipton suggested that after the U.S. borders were secure, and not before, could he envision a guest worker program for the United States.

“We must get control of our borders and tackle the issue of illegal immigration. However, I feel it starts with the border. Until we secure our border and stop the inflow of illegal immigrants, any attempt to establish a guest-worker program will fail. I am not against a guest-worker program to fill the jobs Americans cannot fill once our borders are secure,” said Tipton. [[Rocky Mountain News](#), 10/20/06]

### **Tipton: Revision of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment “Worthy of Discussion”**

In 2010, Tipton said that revisions to the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment were worth considering in order to prevent illegal immigration. He would not try to deport current citizens, but would look at changes for people yet to be born.

“I think that that’s (14<sup>th</sup> amendment revision) worthy of discussion,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), 8/23/10]

### **Opposed Changes to the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment and Birthright Citizenship**

In January 2011, Tipton said that birthright citizenship in America was a “settled question” and that he did not support changes to the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment.

Matthews: “OK. So you’re not against birth citizenship? You’re not against—you’re not going to change the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment? You’re not one of those guys?”

Tipton: “No”. [MSNBC Hardball, [1/6/2011](#)]

### **Didn’t Support Amnesty or Deportation for Illegal Immigrants**

In 2006, Tipton was asked whether he supported Tancredo’s position on illegal immigrants, which was complete deportation or the Bush administration’s plan for amnesty. Tipton said he would not “rubber-stamp” either view.

“I think enforcing our border has to be the nation's top priority before you can solve anything else about immigration [...] but am I in favor of mass deportation? No, that's not realistic. I've talked to our farmers and ranchers and I know they need access to workers.” [Financial Technology Spotlight, [8/29/06](#)]

### **Tipton: Salazar Has an “Allegiance to Illegal Immigration”**

In May 2006, Tipton criticized Salazar for comments made about a group of pro-immigration protestors.

In 2006, 500 people participated in a pro-immigration rally in Pueblo, “the local conclusion to ‘A Day Without Immigrants.’”

Salazar was quoted in a Grand Junction newspaper as saying “[the rally] would show the general public how extensively the US economy relies on immigrant labor.”

Tipton attacked Salazar’s comments, saying they showed “Salazar’s ‘allegiance’ to illegal immigrants.” [[Frontrunner](#), 5/02/06]

### **Voted Against Medical Benefits for Legal Immigrants Without Waiting Period**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that would provide medical benefits under Medicaid and the Children’s Basic Health Plan to pregnant women and children who are legal immigrants without a waiting period.

Before the bill, legal immigrants were not eligible for either program for five years after date of entry to the U.S.

The bill passed the House, 46-19. [HB09-1353, House Journal page 1594, 4/29/09]

### **Immigration Rules should be Like Tax Rules....Applied Equally**

In May 2006, Tipton, in opposition to President Bush’s plan for amnesty for illegal immigrants, said that immigration rules ought to apply equally, “just like the tax code is enforced on everyone who is here legally.” [CITATION]

### **Tipton: Three Reasons Why to Pursue Secure Borders**

In July 2006, Tipton said there were three reasons why the United States should pursue a more secure border policy. These included the prevention of terrorists from entering the country, the stoppage of drug traffickers, and the prevention of illegal immigration. [[Montrose Daily Press](#), 7/14/06]

### **Endorsed GOP Plan for Tougher Rules for Illegal Immigration**

In 2006, Tipton endorsed the GOP emphasis on tougher border controls, fining employers who hire illegal immigrants and building a barrier at the Mexican border. He also endorsed a guest worker program but would not allow any illegal immigrants currently in the U.S. to participate unless they returned to their home country first. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 8/11/06]

## Insurance Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Supported pooling small business together to lower health care insurance costs*
- ✓ *Supported the sale of health insurance across state lines*
- ✓ *Protected insurance companies rate increases from inspection*

**Scott Tipton supported pooling small businesses together in order to bargain for lower health care rates for their employees. He also supported the sale of health insurance across state lines. Tipton protected insurance companies from public scrutiny and inspection in the event of rate increases.**

### Voted Against Audit of Quasi-Private Insurer

In 2009, Tipton voted against an annual audit for Pinnacol Assurance, the state's largest workers' compensation insurer.

The insurer was allowed to operate as a quasi-private company starting in 2004 but was a government entity previously, when it experienced financial problems. The bill also established an interim legislative committee to review Pinnacol's operations and evaluate whether its quasi-private status was serving Coloradans well.

Lawmakers had previously considered taking \$500 million from Pinnacol's assets to cover budget shortfalls and to avoid cuts in higher education. When executives threatened to sue, the plan collapsed. The audit bill was seen as necessary to affirm the company's status as a political subdivision of the state. [[Denver Business Journal](#), 4/23/09]

Under law, Pinnacol was required to provide workers' compensation insurance to any employer, regardless of risk. [[Denver Post](#), 9/23/09]

The committee set up to provide better oversight to the insurer considered proposals in September 2009 to ban bonuses for employees based on their denial of claims and impose stiffer penalties for improper denials or delays in medical treatment. [[Associated Press](#), 9/18/09]

The House passed the bill, as amended by conference report, 35-30. [SB09-281, House Journal page 1685, 5/04/09]

### Protected Insurance Companies' Rate Increases from Inspection

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that would require insurance companies to get approval before raising premiums.

The bill originally tried to raise non-economic caps for medical malpractice suits, but the provisions were pulled when the bill did not have enough votes. [[Colorado Springs Business Journal](#), 4/23/09]

The final bill required that rate filings by a medical malpractice insurer be available for public inspection and for hearings to be held on an increase of more than 5 percent. [HB09-1344 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/25/09]

The bill lost in the House, 26-39. [HB09-1344, House Journal page 1338, 4/22/09]

### **Supported Pooling Businesses to Negotiate Lower Insurance Rates**

In January 2011, Tipton suggested that small businesses should form larger pools to negotiate lower health insurance prices. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/18/11](#)]

### **Supported Insurance Companies Selling Insurance Plans Across State Lines**

In January 2011, Tipton supported insurance companies selling plans across state lines as a means to drive down costs. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/18/11](#)]

### **Voted Against Repealing Bill Helping Individuals and Families Choose Disability Services**

In 2009, Tipton voted against repealing the bill and its appropriation, despite a recommendation of the Joint Budget Committee as part of budget balancing package.

The bill passed the House, 42-23. [SB09-206, House Journal page 499, 2/24/09]

## Job Creation Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ Said his focus in Congress would be on job creation
- ✓ Criticized Salazar for not effectively creating jobs
- ✓ Sponsored legislation to cut corporate taxes in hopes to spur job creation
- ✓ Criticized Stimulus Act as failing to create jobs
- ✓ Believed oil shale development would create thousands of jobs in his district
- ✓ Received a 66 percent score from the Denver Chamber of Commerce

Scott Tipton campaigned on creation jobs for Colorado's third congressional district. During his 2010 campaign, he often criticized Salazar for supporting policies that have deterred job growth. He believed that the Stimulus Act failed at creating jobs in his district. He also saw the drilling of oil shale as a way to create thousands of jobs in his district.

### Criticized Salazar for not Creating Jobs

In 2009, Tipton criticized Salazar and Democratic policies for failing to produce jobs in his congressional district.

"I look around the 3rd District and I don't see the jobs," Tipton said in a telephone interview. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 11/12/09]

### Focus in Congress Would be About "Jobs and the Economy"

In 2010, Tipton said that his focus while in Congress would be about "jobs and the economy," adding "let's get people back to work." [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 12/10/10]

### Supported Massive Cuts to Federal Programs that Cost Jobs

In 2011, Tipton supported massive cuts to federal programs that cost jobs. [no citation?]

### Tipton Was a Member of the Republican Study Committee

As of January 2011, Tipton was listed as a member of the Republican Study Committee. [[Republican Study Committee member list](#)]

### **While Tipton Was a Member of the Republican Study Committee, It Proposed the Spending Reduction Act of 2011**

In January 2011, while Tipton was a member of the Republican Study Committee, it proposed the Spending Reduction Act of 2011. [Representative Jim Jordan press release, [1/20/11](#)]

The Act was introduced to the Congress and referred to several House committees. [112<sup>th</sup> Congress, HR 408]

### **Spending Reduction Act of 2011 Called for Cuts of More than 40 Percent to Non-Defense Discretionary Spending**

According to 2011 analysis by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Spending Reduction Act of 2011 would cut non-defense discretionary spending by more than 40 percent.

“By 2021, it would reduce non-defense appropriations by 42 percent below what the Congressional Budget Office says is needed to maintain last year’s funding level, adjusted only for inflation,” the CBPP blog read. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities blog, [1/21/11](#)]

### **Cuts to Non-Defense Discretionary Spending Cost Jobs**

According to 2011 analysis by the Economic Policy Institute, cuts to non-defense discretionary spending would cost jobs.

“Focusing on deficits now is not only a distraction, but actually undermines the goal of generating more jobs. **In fact, making these cuts to the discretionary budget would reduce the number of jobs available significantly.** Okun’s rule of thumb states that when gross domestic product (GDP) declines, there is a correlating increase in unemployment. A \$60 billion cut, when assigned a fiscal multiplier of 1.5, would impact GDP by roughly \$90 billion for the rest of this fiscal year alone. This would result in a decline in output by a little more than one-half of a percentage point of GDP, resulting in a loss of around 590,000 jobs,” the Economic Policy Institute reported. [Emphasis added; “Discretionary Spending Cuts Would Reduce Jobs, Hurt Social Programs”, epi.org, [1/25/11](#)]

### **Believed Legislation Cutting Corporate Taxes would Spur Job Creation**

In 2011, Tipton sponsored legislation that would cut the federal corporate income tax rate to 10 percent from 35 percent.

Tipton said the bill, which would also lower capital gains and dividends taxes to 10 percent, would attract business investment in the United States and spur job creation.

“In order to get this economy moving, we have to get Americans back to work,” he said in a phone interview. “We’ve been driving American jobs, American opportunities, off of our shores.” [[Durango Herald](#), 3/15/11; Thomas.loc.gov, HR 1074, accessed 8/08/11]

### **Said Losing Job in Small Community had Bigger Impact than Losing Job in City**

In March 2011, Tipton voiced concerns about the potential Fort Lyon prison closing, even though it was not in his district.

“We need to look around to see if there’s some opportunities to use the facility,” he said. “The economic impact is huge. When we lose one job in a small community it’s more impact than if we lose one job in downtown Denver.” [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), [3/22/11](#)]

### **Former President of the Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce**

In 1997, Scott Tipton was mentioned in [The Pueblo Chieftain](#) as the former President of the Cortez Area Chamber of Commerce. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/28/97]

### **Received a 66 Percent Score from the Denver Chamber of Commerce**

In 2009, Scott Tipton received a 66 percent score from the Denver Chamber of Commerce. [Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce Legislative Scorecard, 2009]

### **Claimed Environmental Regulations Were Costing Americans “Trillions”**

In February 2011 floor remarks, Tipton claimed “regulations cost the American people \$1.75 trillion annually.” [Tipton Floor Remarks on H.Res 72, 2/10/11]

### **EPA Regulation and CAFÉ Standards are “Job-Killing”**

In 2011, Tipton said that many of the standards put in place were “job-killing” and a result of the EPA and CAFÉ standards.

“Of those 46 new regulations, 10 came from the EPA, including job-killing regulations of carbon emissions and increased CAFE standards. The cost of these new EPA regulations alone total \$23 billion annually.” [Tipton Floor Remarks on H.Res 72, 2/10/11]

### **Said American Creativity and Small Businesses Could Address Economic Problems**

In February 2011 floor remarks Tipton said he grew up hearing phrases like “Yankee ingenuity,” but he said government stifled creativity.

He said “I’m a small business man, not a career politician. I’ve actually gotten my hands dirty. I’ve created a business from the ground up. I have risked. We’ve had to work hard. But one thing I’ve learned being a small business man is you have to be nimble. You have to be creative in terms of addressing the problems.” [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

## **Said Wild Lands Policy Hurt Energy Production and Job Creation**

In 2011, Tipton opposed the “wild lands” policy that Interior Secretary Ken Salazar sought to implement, claiming the Interior Department “overreached its authority” in pursing such a policy.

Salazar’s order would protect the wilderness characteristics in areas of Tipton’s district. Tipton said the unemployment rate was tied to energy production in the west and advocated for energy production. “The West is mineral rich, and there are those of us who believe there can be a win-win” with energy and environmental concerns, Tipton said. [[Daily Sentinel, 3/19/11](#)]

## **Held Hearing on GIPSA Rule Where he Claimed Regulation Would Cost U.S. 23,000 Jobs**

In 2011, as Chairman of the House Small Business Committee’s Agriculture, Energy and Trade Subcommittee Tipton held a hearing entitled “How USDA’s Proposed GIPSA Rule Hurts America’s Small Businesses.”

Tipton said if the USDA’s controversial Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard’s Administration (GIPSA) proposal was enacted, it “has the potential to reduce gross domestic product by over \$1.5 billion and cost the U.S. economy nearly 23,000 jobs.” [[AgNewsWire, 7/20/11](#)]

## **Said Losing Job in Small Community had Bigger Impact than Losing Job in City**

In March 2011, Tipton voiced concerns about the potential Fort Lyon prison closing, even though it wasn’t in his district.

“We need to look around to see if there’s some opportunities to use the facility,” he said. “The economic impact is huge. When we lose one job in a small community it’s more impact than if we lose one job in downtown Denver.” [[Pueblo Chieftain, 3/22/11](#)]

## **Budget Cuts Could Hurt Public Sector Jobs for Latinos in Colorado’s Third District**

In October 2010, a concern of the Latino community in Colorado was the fact that budget cuts would be devastating to local infrastructure projects, which were crucial to many in the community.

“For Latinos, the cuts could mean loss of library services, teacher and public sector jobs and transportation,” said Jess Ulibarri, state director of Mi Familia Vota (My Family Votes), a get-out-the-vote group.

“When we talk to voters in Pueblo, folks really understand what less taxes means in terms of how that will really impact your family,” said Ulibarri, whose group is working with two others to encourage Colorado Latinos to go to the polls. [[Associated Press, 10/29/10](#)]

## **Hispanics made Up 15 Percent of Voters in Colorado’s Third Congressional District in 2010**

In 2010, Hispanics made up approximately 15 percent of the voting bloc in Colorado’s third congressional district. [[Associated Press, 10/29/10](#)]

## **Tipton: Obama Budget Hurts Those Who are Creating Jobs**

In 2011, Tipton criticized President Obama's budget plan to cut 4 trillion in spending and raise taxes by 1.5 trillion. Tipton went on to say that the President's plan targets small-business owners who pay corporate taxes by filing as individuals and who might qualify as wealthy under the plan.

"That vividly illustrates that we have a chief executive that's never worked in the private sector," he said.  
"These are people who are creating jobs. He needs to be reminded of that." [\[Durango Herald, 4/19/11\]](#)

## **Believed that the Recovery Act Failed to Create Jobs**

In 2010, during an interview on Fox News, Tipton, when asked about the effects of the stimulus package on Colorado's third district, said that the Stimulus Bill had "absolutely failed":

MR. SCOTT: "What's the stimulus doing there for you in southwestern Colorado?"

MR. TIPTON: "Absolutely failed. John Salazar liked to boast about his stimulus vote. Four hundred three million dollars came into the 3rd Congressional District creating 595.5 jobs. When we do the math, that's \$677,000 per job. We could have cut a check to every man, woman and child in the 3rd District for \$700 or \$800 and probably had a lot better impact. We need to get the private sector back to work. We're putting forward proposals in our campaign to do just that." [\[Fox News Channel "Happening Now" Interview, 10/14/10\]](#)

## **Tipton: Oil Shale Development "Would Lead to Tens of Thousands of Good Paying Jobs"**

In March 2011, Tipton advocated for the development of oil shale resources in Western Colorado as a way to spark job creation and ease oil prices.

"The development of [oil shale] resources would lead to tens of thousands of good paying jobs and help stabilize our energy supply – putting an end to spikes in gas prices." [\[Colorado Independent, 4/13/11\]](#)

## **Voted Against Bill That Would Reduce Tourism Funding by \$5 Million**

In 2009, Tipton voted with a minority of legislatures (49-12) in voting against Representative Mark Ferrandino's proposal to fund tourism in Colorado at \$15.8 million dollars. Ferrandino's budget was in contrast to a senate proposal that suggested funding levels at \$20 million.

Gov. Bill Ritter had proposed keeping \$10 million of the about \$20 million tourism budget. But members of the Joint Budget Committee opted for almost \$6 million above Ritter's request. The full Senate increased funding to \$20.8 million, but the House reduced the funding back down to \$15.8 million. Tipton voted against the House reduced legislation. [\[Durango Herald, 3/10/09\]](#)

## **Claimed to Support County Designation to Get More Federal Contracts**

In 2011, business owners in La Plata, Montezuma and Archuleta counties were nervous because the Small Business Administration no longer considered them economically disadvantaged – the change could cause the area to lose millions in federal contracts each year. Tipton announced that he signed on to House Bill 2131, which was similar to Senate legislation to extend HUBZone designations by three years.

“Times are tough,” Tipton said in a statement to The Durango Herald. “Unemployment has remained at or above 9 percent for 26 months, and now is not the time to make it even more challenging for small businesses to create jobs.” [Durango Herald, [10/11/11](#)]

### **Co-Sponsored Bill to Increase Ski Resort Tourism**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton co-sponsored a bill that would permit ski resorts to offer other activities like zip lines. Tipton said the legislation would increase tourism while creating jobs for rural mountain communities. [Durango Herald, [10/19/11](#)]

### **Co-Sponsored Legislation that Put \$10 Billion Outdoor Industry at Risk**

In November 2011, Tipton received a letter on behalf of outdoor industry companies, employees, and customers in Colorado expressing their disappointment with his co-sponsorship of the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act. The letter read, “We are extremely disappointed by your co-sponsorship of this legislation. Our organizations represent suppliers, manufacturers, retailers, and associations in the outdoor recreation business based in Colorado. Outdoor recreation contributes \$10 billion annually to the Colorado economy and supports 106,000 jobs across the state. Our industry’s annual retail sales and services account for four percent of the gross state product. Our industry depends on the conservation of our public lands to provide places for our customers to use the products that we make and sell. H.R. 1581 threatens the sustainability of the resources that ensure our economic future.” [Outdoor Industry Association Letter, [11/11/11](#)]

### **Said Regulations Kept Business from Creating Jobs and Made Debt Problem Worse**

In March 2011, Tipton said, “People remain concerned about the debt,” at an open house, “They’re concerned about the deficit. They want to see Washington do something about it. I don’t think it got this way by ill-intent but by overreaching (on spending).”

Tipton went on to say “We toured the Eagle plant in Pueblo West, Trane and Home Depot,” Tipton said. “People are worried. We have a \$14.3 trillion debt, and we’re getting ready to add on another \$1.6 trillion this year. Each taxpayer owes \$127,000. Each citizen, \$40,000. The real problems are being seen in the marketplace. The federal government has sucked all the oxygen out of the room. The regulatory issues and small businesses’ inability to get money to create jobs have to change.” [Pueblo Chieftain, [3/22/11](#)]

### **Said the Private Sector and Small Businesses Created Jobs**

In January 2011, Scott Tipton accepted bipartisan seating at the State of the Union with the Colorado delegation.

“I’ll do anything it takes for the sake of jobs, the economy and reducing the size of government.” He said, and went on to say that he disagreed with his Democratic peers on the federal government’s role in

creating jobs, “The private sector and small businesses are the economic drivers,” he said. [[Colorado Statesman](#), 1/28/11]

### **Allowed Government Contracts with Companies Shipping American Jobs Overseas**

In January 2011, Tipton voted against a motion that would not allow government spending on contracts with companies determined to have outsourced American jobs abroad.

The motion to recommit required the Rules Committee to report an amendment that would specify that, when the House Budget Committee chairman set a discretionary spending limit for the remainder of fiscal 2011, no spending would be allocated for a contract with a company the Labor secretary determined to have shipped jobs abroad. [CQ Today, 1/25/11]

The motion failed, 184-242. [H Res 38, [Vote #19](#), 1/25/11]

## Land Conservation Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Tipton remained non-committal on Hidden Gems projected in spite of local support*
- ✓ *Tipton opposed Wild Lands project proposed to preserve wilderness land in the Colorado*

**Scott Tipton remained non-committal on the Hidden Gems project that would protect thousands of acres of land in the Western Colorado region. He was excited to hear that Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar abandoned plans to preserve wilderness under his “Wild Lands” program.**

#### **Tipton on Hidden Gems: “I visited with some folks that are supportive of it”**

In 2010, Tipton said that he had met with individuals who were both for and against the Hidden Gems proposal.

“I visited with some folks that are supportive of it,” Tipton said. “I’ve also visited with folks that are concerned in terms of other impacts there when it comes down to some outdoor recreation being able to go through the areas as well. I think we need to have a lot of transparency in these discussions. We need to find what associated costs are going to be, if any. And where do we find resources in tough economic times to be able to address some of these issues?” [\[Aspen Daily News, 11/08/10\]](#)

#### **Hidden Gems Makes Minimal Impact to Outdoor Recreation**

In 2010, Tipton expressed concern as to the impact on outdoor recreation if Hidden Gems was to be enacted as a policy. The diagram below details the amount of land affected from the Hidden Gems project. [\[Aspen Daily News, 11/08/10\]](#)

Impact of the Hidden Gems Wilderness Proposal on Motorized and Mechanized Recreational Access  
in the Roaring Fork Watershed

Miles of road or trail	Available miles/acres under new forest travel plan 'Preferred Alternative G'	Closed by Hidden Gems Miles   Percent
Fullsize Vehicles	634	1    1%
ATV and Motorcycle	197	9    5%
Mountain Bikes	177	2    1%
<b>Total Bikes &amp; Motorized</b>	<b>1,008</b>	<b>12    1%</b>
Snowmobile Information		
Acres of snowmobile play areas	32,207	754    2%
Acres open to Snowmobiles	135,092	19,381    14%

[Whiteriverwild.org, accessed [7/05/11](#)]

### **November 2010: Pitkin Co. Commissioners Approved Hidden Gems Proposal**

In November 2010, Pitkin County approved the language of a resolution supporting the local portion of the Hidden Gems Wilderness proposal.

The Gems campaign aims to designate about 62,000 acres of public land in the county as federal wilderness. In all, it encompasses 342,000 acres of western Colorado. Wilderness is the strictest of public land designations and requires an act by the U.S. Congress.

The Pitkin County portion includes a proposed extension of the Hunter-Fryingpan Wilderness including portions of Smuggler Mountain bordering the Aspen city limit, and a sliver east of town toward Independence Pass. The Smuggler piece has drawn some concern from fire officials, because it would add some red tape to fighting wildfires close to area homes. In fire-speak, it falls within the “wild land/urban interface.” [[Aspen Daily News](#), 11/10/10]

### **November 18, 2010: Pitkin Co. Commissioners Voted in Support of Hidden Gems**

On November 18, 2010, Pitkin County Commissioners officially voted in favor of the Hidden Gems Proposal by a vote of 4-0.

“I really hope [Tipton] takes this under his wing and understands how important this is,” Commissioner Jack Hatfield said.

Pitkin County’s commissioners included a caveat asking the campaign to work with safety officials on examining how a wilderness designation would affect wildfire protection near Aspen. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 11/18/10; [Aspen Daily News](#), 12/9/10]

### **December 9, 2010: Gunnison Co. Commissioners Endorsed Hidden Gems**

On December 7, 2010, Gunnison County Commissioners endorsed the Hidden Gems Wilderness Proposal by a vote of 2-1.

The Gunnison piece included about 36,000 acres.

One stipulation in the Gunnison County endorsement was that the campaign continue working on building consensus with user groups, like bikers. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 12/9/10]

### **Praised Decision to Rescind “Wild Lands” Order**

In June 2011, Tipton praised Interior Secretary Ken Salazar’s decision to rescind the order instructing the Bureau of Land management to designate certain public land as “wild lands,” making them eligible for federal protection.

“We all share the common bond of loving our public lands, and ensuring access to them is important. We will continue to be vigilant and make sure that future designations of public lands are made by consensus, not by executive fiat.” [[Cortez Journal](#), [6/4/2011](#)]

### **Tipton Opposed Efforts to Protect Wilderness Lands**

Prior to being sworn into office, then Congressman-elect Tipton opposed a move by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar that would order the Bureau of Land Management to undertake a new effort to identify and protect lands with wilderness characteristics.

Tipton said in a news release that Salazar’s move lets the BLM create de facto wilderness without the approval of Congress or states.

“Secretary Salazar’s decision to change the policy and usurp Congress’ role in public land management is a clear indication that promises of openness and transparency were mere talking points. The Constitution gives exclusive control of the public lands to Congress,” he said. [[Daily Sentinel](#), [12/24/10](#)]

### **Accused of Ignoring Local Support for Wild Lands Policy**

In March 2011, it was reported that Tipton’s assertion that there was massive local opposition to the Wild Lands Policy was inaccurate.

The policy’s creator, Ken Salazar, sent out a letter concerning the policy and it was signed by 73 local politicians. The Director of the Checks and Balances Project that rallied for the policy said, “claims by Representative Tipton, and other industry allies that Secretary Salazar’s wild land policy has no local support falls flat on its face.” [[Colorado Independent](#), [3/08/11](#)]

### **Claimed Secretary Ken Salazar’s Wild Lands Policy Lacked Local Support**

In 2011, Tipton told committee members on the House Natural Resource committee that there was overwhelming local opposition to Salazar’s wild lands policy on the ground in Colorado. However, local organizations in Colorado said Tipton was wrong in his statement.

“Sec. Salazar’s wild lands policy has no local support falls flat on its face,” said Matt Garrington, Denver-based deputy director of the Checks and Balances Project. “The wild lands policy will help protect our very way of life in the West and is supported by hundreds of local officials, hunters, anglers, outdoor recreation business leaders and others.”

The Wild Lands Policy compels the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which controls more public lands than any other federal agency, to use its existing land planning processes to designate appropriate areas as “wild lands” and manage them accordingly. BLM officials are also supposed to take public input from locally affected communities.

Backers of the policy in Colorado pointed to a letter sent to Salazar last month signed by 73 state and local politicians thanking him for issuing the order and highlighting the economic benefits of wilderness lands. [[Colorado Independent, 3/08/11](#)]

### **Republicans Accused Salazar of Wanting to Prevent Oil Drilling**

In 2011, Colorado Reps. Mike Coffman and Doug Lamborn accused Salazar of infringing on the private property rights of oil and gas companies that are looking to drill on public lands.

Salazar countered that under his watch, which has included greater environmental oversight of domestic energy production; onshore drilling permits on public lands are expected to climb from 5,000 in 2010 to more than 7,200 in 2011. He added that natural gas production is up 11 percent between 2005 and 2009. [[Colorado Independent, 3/08/11](#)]

### **Said Wild Lands Policy Hurt Energy Production and Job Creation**

In 2011, Tipton opposed the “wild lands” policy that Interior Secretary Ken Salazar sought to implement, claiming the Interior Department “overreached its authority” in pursing such a policy.

Salazar’s order would protect the wilderness characteristics in areas of Tipton’s district. Tipton said the unemployment rate was tied to energy production in the west and advocated for energy production. “The West is mineral rich, and there are those of us who believe there can be a win-win” with energy and environmental concerns, Tipton said. [[Daily Sentinel, 3/19/11](#)]

### **Business Owners Said Hidden Gem Proposal Important to Success of Businesses**

In 2012, a group of business owners told Tipton that they supported the Hidden Gems proposal to protect the wilderness that their businesses depended upon. “Each of the groups spoke and expressed how meaningful and important each person’s wilderness experiences were and what a boon wilderness was to the success of each business,” said Bill Stirling, former Aspen mayor and owner of a real estate company. Stirling said hunting and fishing in Colorado account for about \$2 billion in spending in the \$10 billion outdoor-recreation industry. [[Aspen Times, 1/20/12](#)]

## **Opposed Requirement that Private Water Holders Sign Water Rights Over to U.S. Government when Using Federal Land**

In 2011, Tipton opposed requirements that private water holders sign their water rights over to the U.S. government as a permit condition on federal land. He wrote a letter to the U.S. Department of Agriculture complaining about the requirement. “Water rights established under state law are property rights for purposes of the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution,” Tipton wrote in the letter. “Congress has not delegated to the Forest Service the authority to require permittees to transfer ownership of water rights to the United States as a permit condition.” [Associated Press, 11/13/11]

## **Favored Rolling Back Wilderness Protections for Public Lands**

In 2011, Tipton didn’t say whether he supported the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act or drilling in Thompson Divide, however, he did favor rolling back wilderness protections for other public lands. Tipton reportedly blasted Salazar’s controversial Wild Lands policy. [Colorado Independent, 12/6/11]

## **Headline: Challenger Pace says Tipton threatens recreation-based economies**

In 2011, Tipton was accused by Sal Pace of putting the tourism in jeopardy with his anti-environment record. Pace said, “I don’t think he is terribly concerned about our natural habitat and our natural environment and that has pretty severe effects on our economies,” Pace said. “If Scott Tipton has his way and if his policies were to become law, communities like Gunnison or Steamboat that depend on recreation and tourism — which includes having clean water to raft in and beautiful mountains to ski on and an outstanding outdoors environment for people to mountain bike in — would be at risk.”

Pace criticized Tipton’s support of H.R. 1581, the Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act. ““It’s a giveaway of 16 million acres of pristine wildlife habitat,” Pace said. “Currently 76 percent of our National Forests and BLM lands are open to development. This would be giving a blank check to corporations on our public lands and would threaten our water supplies.”” [Colorado Independent, [9/13/11](#)]

## **Headline: Sportsmen seek to improve Colorado Roadless Rule that anti-wilderness bill would scrap**

In 2011, Tipton supported legislation opposed by sportsman because they valued the Colorado Roadless Rule. A coalition of eight conservation and sportsmen’s groups opposed the legislation because it would release huge swaths of federal lands across the country from roadless protection and consideration for wilderness status. [Colorado Independent, [9/3/11](#)]

## **Pueblo Chieftain: Tipton Supported Ranchers in Opposition to Pinon Canyon Expansion**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton inherited the fight between Southeastern Colorado ranchers and the Army over its controversial plans to expand the 238, 000- acre training range northeast of Trinidad. Tipton continued to support the ranchers in opposing any expansion. [Pueblo Chieftain, [7/6/11](#)]

## **Spokesman Said Federal Land Exchange for Bear Ranch was on Agenda**

Tipton's spokesman said "I know it is on our agenda to look into the federal land exchange for Bear Ranch in Gunnison County. We are going to research it a little bit more, and when we decide to move forward it's going to be a more transparent process with more public input." [[Delta County Independent](#), 2/2/11]

### **Tipton Opposed Efforts to Protect Wilderness Lands**

Prior to being sworn into office, then Congressman-elect Tipton opposed a move by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar that would order the Bureau of Land Management to undertake a new effort to identify and protect lands with wilderness characteristics.

Tipton said in a news release that Salazar's move lets the BLM create de facto wilderness without the approval of Congress or states.

"Secretary Salazar's decision to change the policy and usurp Congress' role in public land management is a clear indication that promises of openness and transparency were mere talking points. The Constitution gives exclusive control of the public lands to Congress," he said. [[The Daily Sentinel](#), 12/24/10]

### **Announced Legislation to Have Chimney Rock Designated as National Monument**

In 2011, in an opinion piece in the [Denver Post](#), Tipton wrote that he would introduce legislation to "make Chimney Rock the seventh national monument under the control of the U.S. Forest Service."

Citing the designation of Chimney Rock would require "no additional federal funds," Tipton wrote "This translates to a potential for upgrades — like increased public education and awareness, and increased visibility — making the site even more attractive to visitors." He noted the historical significance of the location and said the designation would increase economic activity. [Op-ed, Scott Tipton, [Denver Post](#), 6/10/11]

## Latino Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *2010 Congressional race listed as one of the top ten races in which Latino vote played a decisive factor*
- ✓ *2011 budget cuts could disproportionately hurt Latino's in Colorado's 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district*

**Scott Tipton's 2010 Congressional race was considered one of the top races in the county in which the Latino vote played a deciding factor in the elections outcome. In 2011, much of the legislation and budget cuts proposed by Republicans would be adverse to the Latino community in Colorado's 3<sup>rd</sup> congressional district.**

### **2010 Race Listed as One of the Top Ten Races in Which the Latino Vote Would Be a Factor**

In 2010, Colorado's third Congressional district race was rated as one of the top ten races in which the Latino vote in that district played a decisive factor in determining the election outcome. [Texas on the Potomac, 10/27/10]

### **Budget Cuts Could Disproportionately Hurt Latinos in Colorado's Third District**

In October 2010, a concern of the Latino community in Colorado was the fact that budget cuts would be devastating to local infrastructure projects, which were crucial to many in the community.

"For Latinos, the cuts could mean loss of library services, teacher and public sector jobs and transportation," said Jess Ulibarri, state director of Mi Familia Vota (My Family Votes), a get-out-the-vote group.

"When we talk to voters in Pueblo, folks really understand what less taxes means in terms of how that will really impact your family," said Ulibarri, whose group is working with two others to encourage Colorado Latinos to go to the polls. [Associated Press, 10/29/10]

### **Hispanics made Up 15 Percent of Voters in Colorado's Third Congressional District in 2010**

In 2010, Hispanics made up approximately 15 percent of the voting bloc in Colorado's third congressional district. [Associated Press, 10/29/10]

## Local/State Government Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ Sponsored legislation to increase the pay of county government officials for his home county...and then opposed similar legislation the next year for another county
- ✓ Accepted over \$17,000 in per diem in 2010 alone while a state legislator
- ✓ Supported the allowing of states to declare bankruptcy
- ✓ Voted to end the Essential Air Service in Colorado
- ✓ Local officials worked to secure Jackson Gulch funding
- ✓ Worked with FCC to have southwest Colorado placed in Denver media market

One of the first bills Scott Tipton sponsored as a Colorado legislator was to give salary increases to every elected official in Montezuma County. The next year, he voted against salary increases for other county officials in Colorado citing budget constraints. Tipton supported the idea of allowing states who are suffering under massive debt to be able to declare bankruptcy. He has taken heat from local county officials near his hometown for voting to cut the Essential Air Service. He has worked with FCC officials to have Colorado's southwestern most counties incorporated into the Denver media markets instead of northern New Mexico. Tipton has also been pushed by local county officials to support development projects like funding for the Jackson Gulch.

### Sponsored Legislation to Increase the Pay for Local Government Officials

In 2009, Tipton introduced House Bill 1203, which would increase the pay of Montezuma county's Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor, Commissioners, Sheriff, and Coroner.

Tipton was encouraged to introduce the legislation by Sheriff Gerald Wallace, who would receive a \$9,400 per year salary increase from the reclassification.

The total fiscal impact of the legislation proposed by Tipton would be in an increase in spending of \$74,300 per year. [[Durango Herald](#), 1/31/09; [Durango Herald](#), 3/06/09; Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note LLS 09-0791, 2/04/2009]

### Said He Was Promised That There Would Be No Wage Increases

In 2010, Tipton was asked about his legislation by [The Daily Sentinel](#). At that time, Tipton said he carried his bill (HB 1203) to allow the county to increase the number of people on its police force. He said that he was assured by local officials that there would not be any wage increases.

“I had the assurances of our county commissioners that they were not going to raise their wages, but this also allowed them to increase the size of, and this was according to them, the size of our local police force by having the different designation. They requested, I responded to the request ... only our rural counties, small towns, even have to deal with this of asking permission. I didn't like having to carry that piece of legislation, but I responded to the local elected officials doing it, and because I (garbled) exactly what they're talking about.”

[The Durango Herald](#) and the Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note both identified the wage increases before votes were taken on the legislation. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 9/30/10; [Durango Herald](#), 1/31/09; Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note LLS 09-0791, 2/04/2009]

### **Testified That He Knew There Would be Wage Increases**

In 2009, Tipton, while testifying before the House Local Government Committee, admitted that he knew there would be wage increases.

Representative John Soper, D-Thornton, wanted to know if the county could afford the increase. Tipton's response was that he had asked similar questions and was assured that they could.

“County commissioners inform me that Montezuma County is in excellent financial shape and can afford the increase,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), [2/11/09](#)]

### **Uncomfortable with Carrying Wage Increase Bill But Did It Anyways**

In 2009, Tipton said he was uncomfortable carrying the bill because he thought county commissioners should set salaries on their own county. However, Colorado law gave the power to the state Legislature. [[Durango Herald](#), [2/11/09](#); [Cortez Journal](#), 2/11/09]

### **All of Montezuma’s County Officials received their Expected Salary Increases**

In 2011, the Montezuma County budget showed that all of the officials mentioned in the Colorado Legislative Staff Fiscal Note who were expected to receive wage increases did indeed receive a wage increase. [Montezuma County Budget, [accessed 4/22/11](#)]

### **Received Nearly \$18,000 in Per Diems in a Period of Four Months**

During the 2010 Colorado General Assembly legislative session lasting from mid-January to mid-May, Tipton, as a part-time state representative, was one of the 43 non-metro area members eligible for a per diem of \$150 a day for the 120 day legislative session for a potential total of \$18,000 a year.

Tipton ended up being one of 23 members to accept \$17,850 or more in per diem payments during the 2010 legislative session.

Colorado legislators may collect per diem on weekends, holidays and days when they are excused for various reasons including illness or personal business. Metro lawmakers received a \$45 daily per diem. [Denver Post, 12/19/10]

*Note: Sal Pace also received \$17,850 over the same period of time*

### **Received \$30,000 as Member of the State Legislature**

#### **Cuts to Essential Air Service Would Devastate Cortez Airport**

In February 2011, Tipton said that cuts to the Essential Air Service would mean that the Cortez community might have to “step up somehow” and accept less funding for the local Cortez Airport.

Tipton was asked by Cortez Mayor Dan Porter about the cuts to the Essential Air Service in a town hall meeting in February. [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/09/11]

#### **Cuts Would Bring Airport Development “To A Crawl”**

According to Cortez Airport Manager Russ Machen, cuts to the Essential Air Service would require drastic changes by the Cortez government.

“Without the airline, we literally would have to wrap airport operations into another department and rely on (city of Cortez) General Fund support,” Machen wrote in an e-mail to City Manager Jay Harrington. “Right now, we make a small profit each year that enables us to meet our FAA and state grant obligations. Development here would come to a crawl, if not a halt, due to funding availability.” [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/09/11]

#### **“Air Service...Important to Local Economies or Rural Communities”**

In February 2011, Jay Harrington said the end of airline service to Cortez would not only affect the airport but also the entire community.

“Air service has been shown to be important to support local economies of rural communities throughout the state, particularly for a community like Cortez,” Harrington said. “Having air service to support the existing local businesses as well as the tourism economy is a major issue for folks who may be looking at relocating a business here, too.” [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/09/11]

#### **Tipton: “Everyone’s Ox is Going To Get Gored”**

In February 2011, Tipton, in explaining cuts to the Essential Air Service, said that everyone would have to face cuts.

“There's going to be a lot of discussion going on,” Tipton said. “I don't want to delude anybody. As a community, we may have to step up somehow. I think we need to be aware that everybody's ox is going to get gored some in this process.” [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/09/11]

#### **Voted To Terminate Part of the Essential Air Service Program**

On April 1, 2011, Tipton voted for the FAA Reauthorization Act, which would phase out the Essential Air Service program by 2013. According to the bill's CRS summary, it "Terminates the EAS program (except in Alaska and Hawaii) on October 1, 2013." [HR 658, [Vote #220](#), 4/01/11; USA Today, [3/30/11](#)]

### **Opposed Legislation to Increase the Pay for Local Government Officials**

In 2010, Tipton opposed legislation sponsored by Representative Ed Vigil, which would increase the pay of Mineral County's Clerk, Treasurer, Assessor, Commissioners, Sheriff, and Coroner.

Tipton, who had sponsored identical legislation the year before, spoke out against the legislation saying the recent recession made it a bad time to raise anyone's salary, particularly for elected officials. [[Daily Sentinel](#), 9/30/10]

### **Supported States Declaring Bankruptcy to Get Out of Debt**

In 2011, Tipton said that he believed states should be allowed to declare bankruptcy in order to get out of debt.

"Yes, I'm in support of that," Tipton said. "Colorado is OK because their budget has to be balanced. But someplace like California, I don't know how else they can get out from under where they are." [[Valley Courier](#), [2/01/11](#)]

### **County Officials Depend on Tipton for Approving Federal Funding for Local Projects**

In March 2011, Pitkin County commissioner Michael Owsley said that the county relied on Tipton to approve federal dollars for local projects, including a pending \$25 million grant to fund local transit system upgrades. [[Aspen Daily News](#), [3/9/11](#)]

### **Local Officials Concerned about Working with Tipton because of Political Views**

In March 2011, Pitkin county commissioner Michael Owsley expressed his concern with being able to work with Tipton because of his political views.

"The issue is, how do we deal with Scott Tipton?" Owsley asked. "Because he is clearly on the other end of the political spectrum." [[Aspen Daily News](#), [3/9/11](#)]

### **Requested Funds to Fight Bark Beetle**

In 2011, Tipton sent a letter along with fellow Congressmen requesting that Secretary Vilsack redirect unused Forest Service funds toward mitigating the bark beetle epidemic.

The letter did not call for any new funds, but asked any existing unused Forest Service funds from the FY2010 budget be reallocated to carry out additional critical hazard mitigation activities in the region.

“People's lives and livelihoods are at risk because of the damage that has been inflicted by the bark beetle,” Tipton said. “We have been losing the fight in the Rocky Mountain Region, and we bear the scars in our district. We must do more to stop the epidemic.” [Tipton News Release, 4/06/11]

### **Questioned Ability to Obtain Funds from the U.S. Forest Service to Fight Bark Beetle Outbreak**

In February 2011, Tipton, in a meeting with a group of 16 state legislators at the Colorado Statehouse, said that he was uncertain about the funds had requested from the U.S. Forest Service to battle a most recent bark beetle outbreak that was devastating the area.

“In terms of dollars, those are all going to be up in the air,” Tipton said of the forest budget. [[Cortez Journal, 2/03/11](#)]

### **Local Commissioners Concerned about Access to Internet in Schools**

In 2011, Tipton met with local commissioners who expressed their concern about not having ample access to reliable telecommunications and the internet in rural parts of Colorado.

“If you only have five students you can't hire a teacher for one student to take calculus,” she said. “But through the Internet we could have more options for our students,” said Costilla County Commissioner Cristina Martinez. [[Valley Courier, 2/01/11](#)]

### **Said Local Funding Would be Limited Because President Obama Pledged to Veto Bills with Earmarks**

In 2011, Tipton, while meeting with a group of county commissioners in his district, said help to home constituents would be more limited than in the past because President Barack Obama has pledged to veto any bills with earmarks. [[Valley Courier, 2/01/11](#)]

### **Local Commissioners Suggest “Corporate Welfare” Be Addressed to Fix Tax Loopholes**

In 2011, Tipton met with local county commissioners who suggested that “Corporate welfare,” where large corporations are allowed tax loopholes, and waste in defense spending were also brought up to Tipton as problems that need to be fixed on a national level. [[Valley Courier, 2/01/11](#)]

### **Non-Comittal on San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act; Broad Support for the Legislation**

In March 2011, the town of Telluride favored the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act, which Tipton said was an ongoing discussion. The bill would protect acres of Lizard Head Pass, Mt. Sneffels and Last Dollar areas. [[Telluride Daily Planet, 3/11/11](#)]

### **Wilderness Act Had Broad Support in Western Slope**

In 2011, the Sheep Mountain Alliance, an activist group that supported the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act, cited broad support for the legislation.

In a September 2011 press release, the group mentioned that Senators Udall and Bennet supported the legislation, as did numerous county legislators.

The press release went on to say that, “Support has continued to grow for the legislation and includes elected officials, ranchers, mountain bikers, conservation groups, outfitters, local residents, a heli-skiing operator, private landowners, and motorized and non-motorized recreationists.” [Sheep Mountain Village Press Release, [9/27/11](#)]

### **Republicans Attempted to “Jam” a Tipton Town Hall in Opposition to the Legislation**

In September 2011, the Ouray County Republican Party Chairman, Jim Buske, rallied activists to attend Tipton’s town hall and oppose the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act.

Buske wrote to activists with regards to the event, “We also need some volunteers to help set up the day of the event. Chairs, tables, that sort of thing. If you can help please let me know...Also, if you can come an hour early so we can jam the hall with conservatives, that would be great too!” [[Colorado Independent, 9/28/11](#)]

### **...Remained Non-Committal on the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act**

As of October 2011, Tipton remained non-committal on the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act, legislation supported by both of Colorado’s Senators. Tipton spent months discussing the issue with different groups. [[Real Aspen, 10/05/11](#)]

### **On the Fence about Upgrading Colorado National Monument to National Park**

In March 2011, Tipton said it was up to the community whether the Colorado National Monument should be upgraded to a national park. Supporters of the measure said upgrade would attract more tourism. [[Associated Press, 3/26/11](#)]

### **Announced Legislation to Have Chimney Rock Designated as National Monument**

In 2011, Tipton said that he would introduce legislation to “make Chimney Rock the seventh national monument under the control of the U.S. Forest Service.”

“This translates to a potential for upgrades — like increased public education and awareness, and increased visibility — making the site even more attractive to visitors.” [Op-ed, Scott Tipton, [Denver Post, 6/10/11](#)]

### **Toured Mosaic Center for Developmentally Disabled and Said it Would Help Guide His Decisions**

In March 2011, Tipton toured the Mosaic center, a non-profit with programs for the intellectually disabled. Tipton said he was impressed with the services the organization was able to provide despite cuts.

“It certainly helps us to be able to come out into the communities and to be able to see fine organizations like this and others, what’s being done, and how they can help guide our decisions as well,” said Tipton. [[News11, 3/25/11](#)]

## **Mosaic Partnered with Federal Organizations to Get Services to Intellectually Disabled Through HUD**

On their website, Mosaic said they collaborated with federal, state and local funding sources to get people with developmental disabilities housing. They listed HUD Section 811 and the Affordable Housing Program as partner programs. [Mosaic, accessed [3/30/11](#)]

## **Voted for HR 1, Which Cut Millions from Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program**

In 2011, HUD issued a press release on the effects of HR 1 on housing programs. The release said HR1 would “Cut the Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program by 70percent, from \$300 million down to \$90 million.” [HR 1, Vote [#147](#), 2/19/11; HUD, [2/16/11](#)]

## **Criticized For Opposition to Earmarks by Local Officials and Media**

In 2010 and 2011, Tipton face criticism and concern from local officials and media who questioned Tipton’s ability to help fund local projects without earmarks.

Gary Kennedy, superintendent of the Mancos Water District, met with Tipton looking for ways to make sure the \$1.3 million for repairing Jackson Gulch reservoir was attained and then ultimately finished.

Tipton cited Jackson Gulch Reservoir, Mesa Verde and Fort Lewis College as local projects and institutions worth fighting for. [[Durango Herald](#), 12/27/10; [Durango Herald](#), 12/29/10]

## **Worked With FCC to Have Southwest Counties Moved to Denver Media Market**

In 2011, Tipton met with FCC officials on moving La Plata and Montezuma in Southwest Colorado from the Albuquerque media market to the more relevant Denver media market.

“We’re going to start a conversation about what has to be done to get the situation fixed,” Tipton press secretary Josh Green said by telephone. “Is talking to the FCC enough, or do we need to introduce legislation?” [[Durango Herald](#), 1/19/11; [Durango Herald](#), 2/17/11]

## **Heard Multiple Points of View from Ranchers on Low-Altitude Training Flights**

In 2011, Tipton said that he had heard multiple viewpoints from rural ranchers about the effects of low-altitude training flights conducted by the military.

“We don’t want to be absolutely adverse to the military at all levels in Colorado,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), 2/02/11]

## **State Senator Schwartz Calls Low-Altitude Flyover Training “Disruptive”**

In February 2011, State Senator Schwartz called low altitude flyover training by the U.S. military “disruptive”, worrying about the congressional delegations willingness to address the problem.

“It’s very disruptive to that region,” she said, and expressed worry that the Colorado delegation in Congress would cede the flyovers to the military as a trade-off for blocking expansion at Pinon Canyon. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/03/11]

### **Some Flyover Training Had Caused Cattle Stampedes**

In 2011, Tipton said that he had heard from local ranchers that low-level flyover training by the U.S. military had caused cattle stampedes. Tipton had also heard from some ranchers who said the flyover operations had not disturbed their cattle. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/03/11]

### **Claimed to Have “Arms Around” Local Issues**

In 2006, Tipton said, “I have my arms around the local issues on the Western Slope.” [[Durango Herald](#), 2/12/06]

### **Vowed to Fight for Payment-in-Lieu-of-Taxes for Local Counties**

In February 2011, Tipton, while meeting with county officials in the San Luis Valley area, vowed to work towards helping receive payments from the federal government from Payment-in-Lieu-of-Taxes.

The Payment-in-Lieu-of-Taxes program pays counties for the amount of federal land they have and are unable to tax.

“I view that as a priority for our counties,” Tipton said.

According to [The Pueblo Chieftain](#), The only time the program was fully funded in the past 15 years came with federal stimulus spending. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/1/11]

### **Tipton Non-Committal on Wexner Family Private-Public Land Swap**

In December 2010, Tipton remained non-committal on a proposed private-public swap of federal land near the Wexner family home on the flanks of Mount Sopris. Although the proposition from the Wexner’s did not receive support from Pitkin County, the swap did receive support from Garfield County. It would require an act by the U.S. Congress and likely sponsorship from a congressman in Tipton’s seat.

The Wexners’ attorney sat with members of the public at Tipton’s meeting with the commissioners on December 17, as did representatives from the Thompson Divide Coalition, the Gems campaign, and several county staffers.

“I’ve heard the Wexner name, obviously, and heard a little bit,” Tipton said. “I heard there was support for it and the commissioners opposed it. That’s something we’d be happy to visit on.” [[Aspen Daily News](#), 12/20/10]

### **Supported Colorado River Cooperative Agreement**

In May 2011, Tipton supported the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement. The agreement suggested the expansion of Gross Reservoir to provide additional water for Denver while maintaining protection of water flow and quality along the Colorado River.

Tipton commented, "This proposed agreement looks both basin-wide and long-term to ensure a sustainable future for Western Colorado residents and for the environment we cherish." [[Cortez Journal, 5/5/2011](#)]

## Native American Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Warned against legislation that would prevent naming mascots after Indian tribes*
- ✓ *Promised to sponsor legislation to have the federal government pay for the tuition of Native Americans at Fort Lewis College*

**Tipton warned against legislation that would prevent the naming mascots after Indian tribes, saying “political correctness” was getting in the way of “tradition.” He also promised to sponsor legislation that would have the federal government pay for the tuition of Native Americans at Fort Lewis College.**

### **Warned Against Legislation that Would Curb Naming Mascots After Indian Tribes**

In 2010, Tipton warned against a proposal that would levy a \$1,000-per-month fine against high schools that did not obtain approval for American Indian names or mascots.

Tipton said he hoped “we aren’t trying to be so politically correct to make ourselves feel good out of Denver that we aren’t forgetting their traditions down there” outside the metro area. [[Indian Country Today](#), 2/03/10]

### **Promised to Sponsor Legislation to have Federal Government to Pay for Native American Students at Fort Lewis College**

In 2011, Tipton promised to sponsor legislation that would have the federal government pay tuition for Native American students at Fort Lewis College. Currently, the state government pays for Native American tuition at Fort Lewis. Legislators last year tried to reduce state payments to the college, but they gave up in the face of heavy student opposition. [[Durango Herald](#), 2/02/11]

### **Introduced Native American Indian Education Act of 2011**

In 2011, Tipton introduced H.R. 3040, the Native American Indian Education Act of 2011. “This legislation will ensure that our country’s pledge to Native American Indians is kept,” Tipton said. “Without increasing federal spending in any way, this bill will ultimately save Colorado taxpayers money, lifting the weight of a federal mandate from their shoulders.”

He went on to say “The purpose of this legislation is to ensure that federal funding is in place to support and sustain the long-standing federal mandate requiring certain colleges and states, to waive in certain circumstances, tuition charges for Native American Indian students they admit to an undergraduate

college program. This includes the waiver of tuition charges for Indian students who are not residents of the State in which the college is located.” [Rep. Tipton, press release, 9/26/11]

### **Voted Against Increasing Funding for Indian Health Facilities**

In 2011, Tipton voted against increasing funding for Indian health facilities.

The amendment increased funding for Indian health facilities in the underlying bill by \$18 million and was budget neutral by reductions in the underlying bill. [CQ Floor Votes, 7/25/11]

The amendment failed 175-237. [HR 2584, Vote #632, 7/25/11]

## **Oil/Drilling Issues**

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Remained non-committal on opposing drilling in the Thompson Divide*
- ✓ *Criticized Salazar for drilling in the Roan Plateau... and then encouraged drilling there himself*
- ✓ *Voted to protect tax breaks for big oil companies*
- ✓ *Supported the development of oil shale*
- ✓ *Invested over \$50,000 in Exxon Mobil*

**Scott Tipton remained non-committal in opposing drilling in the Thompson Divide. This is in contrast to county officials in that area who oppose drilling. He has voted to protect tax breaks for large oil companies while having thousands invested in Exxon Mobil. He has also supported the development of shale oil in Colorado saying it would create thousands of jobs in the area.**

### **2010: Tipton Non-Committal on Thompson Divide Drilling**

In 2010, Scott Tipton remained non-committal on the prevention of drilling in the Thompson Divide area.

“We do have some economic issues that are already in place there,” Tipton said. “It’s great to have coalitions and to come forward but we want to make sure that we open up that process and make sure that we’re hearing a lot of public input.” [[Aspen Daily News](#), 11/08/10]

### **Pitkin, Garfield, and Gunnison Co. Officials Endorsed Thompson Divide Coalition**

In 2010, the elected leaders of Pitkin, Garfield and Gunnison counties all endorsed the Thompson Divide Coalition’s opposition to gas drilling in the area.

The Pitkin County commissioners also took steps last spring to strengthen their own existing regulations for oil and gas drilling, in the event leaseholders do act on their Thompson Divide holdings. [[Aspen Daily News](#), 4/17/11]

### **Voted to Protect Tax Breaks for Big Oil Companies**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have repealed oil and gas production tax breaks for major integrated oil companies for the proposed two-week period in the House budget continuing resolution.

Representative William Keating, who offered the motion to recommit, said, “Our alternative is an alternative of sensible spending cuts. Let’s stop sending taxpayer money to the most profitable companies in the world.” [CQ Today, [3/01/11](#)]

The motion failed, 176-249. [HJR 44, [Vote #153](#), 3/01/11]

### **...While Having Thousands Invested in Exxon Mobil**

According to Tipton’s 2009 financial disclosure, Tipton held assets in Exxon Mobil valued between \$66,003- \$165,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$2,203- \$6,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

Tipton’s 2010 financial disclosure showed Tipton holding assets in Exxon Mobil valued between \$52,003-\$150,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1,403- \$4,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

*Note: There is no evidence of Tipton selling any holdings in Exxon Mobil*

### **...And Saying Oil Companies Should Pay Their Fair Share in Taxes**

In 2011, Tipton suggested that oil companies should not be exempt from having to pay taxes during such difficult economic times.

“Congressman Tipton has said all along that during this budget crisis, nobody, including oil and gas companies, will be exempt from bearing a share of the load. The congressman continues to work toward a solution that makes our nation energy independent, reduces the deficit, and creates jobs — three goals that are not mutually exclusive,” said Tipton’s spokesc person. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/21/11](#)]

### **Tipton: Oil Shale Development “Would Lead to Tens of Thousands of Good Paying Jobs”**

In March 2011, Tipton advocated for the development of oil shale resources in Western Colorado as a way to spark job creation and ease oil prices.

”The development of [oil shale] resources would lead to tens of thousands of good paying jobs and help stabilize our energy supply – putting an end to spikes in gas prices.” [[Colorado Independent, 4/13/11](#)]

### **June 2006: Tipton Blamed Salazar for Increased Pressure to Drill in Roan Plateau**

In June 2006, Tipton said that Salazar had contributed to the pressure to develop natural gas on the Roan Plateau by opposing drilling of natural gas off the gulf coast and in Alaska.

“We’re increasing pressure on known reserves, which happen to be in western Colorado,” Tipton said. [The Daily Sentinel, 6/14/06]

### **August 2006: Tipton Called for Development of Energy Resources in Roan Plateau**

In August 2006, Tipton said that it was necessary to develop traditional domestic energy supplies in order to achieve national self-sufficiency. He commented that the Roan Plateau was originally an energy reserve and that “its energy resources should be developed.” [Post Independent, [8/17/07](#)]

### **June 2007: Drilling Authorized on Roan Plateau**

In June 2007, the Bureau of Land Management authorized the drilling of natural gas wells on top Roan Plateau after years of review. [The Associated Press, [6/9/2007](#)]

### **October 2009: Plan to Drill Met Public Resistance**

In October 2009, [The New York Times](#) reported that energy companies and the public were coming into increasing conflict over the planned drilling on the Roan Plateau. 36,000 acres of the Plateau were leased out to developers under the Bush administration, but environmental and sporting groups took the issue to court and demanded the leases be thrown out.

Duane Zavadil, VP of Bill Barrett Corporation (lease owner on Roan Plateau), commented that, “We can have our cake and eat it too...The Roan Plateau will be preserved with oil and gas development.” Local activists maintain that development could have potentially disastrous outcomes. [[The New York Times, 10/29/2009](#)]

### **October 2010: Tipton Called for Drilling for Natural Gas in Western Colorado in Second Congressional Campaign**

In October 2010, Tipton “railed against the decline of western Colorado’s energy industry. He said the state must look at plans like that of financier and natural gas and alternative energy advocate T. Boone Pickens and develop its natural gas resources.” [E&E Publishing, [10/26/2010](#)]

### **March 2011: Tipton criticizes Department of Interior Wild Lands Policy Conserving Roan Plateau**

In March 2011, Tipton criticized the Interior Department’s wild lands policy, which would protect certain “wild lands” for conservation. 37 of the proposed 60 areas are in northwest Colorado, including the Roan Plateau.

Tipton commented, “The West is mineral rich, and there are those of us who believe there can be a win-win’ with energy and environmental concerns.” He said the Interior Department had “overreached its authority” and that such restrictions on drilling “a potential cause of unemployment.” [[The Daily Sentinel, 3/19/2011](#)]

### **Received a Perfect Score from Independent Petroleum Association of America**

In 2011, Tipton received a perfect score from the Independent Petroleum Association of America for his votes in congress that supported the petroleum industry. [IPAA Congressional Profile, Scott Tipton, [accessed 7/11/11](#)]

### **Tried to Recover Money from Naval Oil Shale Reserves Trust Fund**

In 2011, Tipton and other local state officials in the Western Slope were working to attain money from the federal oil shale mitigation cash funds.

The money was collected during the oil shale boom of the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Back then, Garfield, Mesa and Rio Blanco counties were the focal points of a push by giants of the energy industry — Exxon, Chevron, Union Oil and others — to find a way to extract a petroleum-like substance called kerogen from deeply buried shale formations in the Piceance Basin.

The boom went bust on May 2, 1982, known locally as Black Sunday, when Exxon Corp. pulled the plug on its Colony Oil Shale Project. The entire industry soon collapsed, causing massive economic dislocation throughout the state.

Federal lands in Colorado and Utah were set aside in the early 1920s as the Naval Oil Shale Reserves as a way to guarantee fuel for military aircraft.

The move was based on expectations that commercial oil shale production would become a reality at some point, and the understanding that shale oil is more easily refined into aviation fuel than into gasoline for cars and trucks.

State Representative Baumgardner explained that a Naval Oil Shale Reserves Trust Fund was set up to help communities in the region deal with growth and other impacts anticipated with oil shale development. [[Post Independent, 4/17/11](#)]

### **Voted to Force the Sale of Off-shore Oil Leases near Virginia and in the Gulf of Mexico**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which forced the sale of oil and natural gas leases in the waters off the coast of Virginia and in the Gulf of Mexico about a year after the Deepwater Horizon catastrophe.

The legislation required the Secretary of the Interior to hold sales for specific off-shore leases located in the Gulf of Mexico and off the coast of Virginia. It also stated that the environmental requirements for these sales would be considered as having been met by the current Environmental Impact Statement. [[New York Times, 5/06/11](#); CQ Floor Votes, [5/05/11](#)]

The bill passed 266-149. [HR 1230, [Vote #298](#), 5/05/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which specified that all the oil and natural gas produced by the land from these leases would be sold only in the United States.

The motion failed 171-238. [HR 1230, [Vote #297](#), 5/05/11]

## **Voted to Speed Up Oil and Gas Lease Approvals in the Gulf of Mexico**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which required the Department of the Interior to rule on exploratory drilling permits for lessees in the Gulf of Mexico in 60 days or less or the permit would be considered approved.

The legislation required the Department of the Interior to deem applications for oil and gas drilling permits approved 30 days, or as many as 60 days (after two possible 15 day extensions), after receiving the application. If the application is denied then the Department of the Interior must provide written reasons for the denial.

Democrats opposed the bill because they felt that it would hinder the ability of the Department of the Interior to approve the leases in a responsible way. [[The Hill, 05/05/11](#); [The Hill, 5/11/11](#); [USA Today, 5/12/11](#); CQ BillAnalysis, [5/20/11](#); [FoxBusiness, 5/11/11](#)]

The bill passed 2263-163. [HR 1229, [Vote #309](#), 5/11/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which stopped the sale of new leases to companies which still owed fines and penalties for economic and environmental damages in the Gulf of Mexico.

The motion failed 186-239. [HR 1229, [Vote #308](#), 5/11/11]

## **Voted to Allow Gas Companies to Continue to Hide Executive Bonuses**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an amendment which would force oil and gas companies to disclose how much they spend on executive bonuses when applying for oil and gas leases.

The amendment would require companies seeking off-shore oil and gas leases under the programs listed in H.R. 1231, the Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act, to disclose the amount of money their executives received in bonuses in the previous quarter. [[The Hill, 5/11/11](#)]

The amendment failed 186-240. [HR 1231, [Vote #314](#), 5/11/11]

## **Voted Against Requiring Companies to Have a Disaster Plan for Oil Spills**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an amendment that required oil and gas companies to have contingency plans for worst-case scenarios, including plans for oil containment and cleanup, when applying for 5-year oil and gas off-shore permits.

The amendment would require companies seeking off-shore oil and gas leases under the 5-year oil and gas leasing programs listed in H.R. 1231, the Reversing President Obama's Offshore Moratorium Act, to submit plans for a worst-case scenario oil spill including oil containment and cleanup. Due to a lack of planning for oil containment and cleanup the Deepwater Horizon oil spill leaked about 185 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. [[The Hill, 5/11/11](#); [Congressional Record, 5/11/11](#); [New York Times, 10/17/11](#)]

The amendment failed 195-223. [HR 1231, [Vote #315](#), 5/11/11]

## **Voted to Allow Offshore Drilling on the East Coast and Off of Southern California**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which expanded the available land for offshore drilling to include areas in the Pacific near southern California and off the east coast in the Atlantic Ocean.

The legislation would have expanded the land available for offshore drill leasing to include parts off the shore of southern California and the eastern seaboard during the 2012-2017 five-year oil and gas leasing period. [[The Hill, 5/11/11](#); [The Hill, 3/29/11](#); [Bloomberg News, 5/11/11](#)]

The bill passed 243-173. [HR 1231, [Vote #320](#), 5/12/11]

## **Voted Against a Motion to Recommit to Sell American Gas and Oil Here in America**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion to recommit which would have required that oil and gas developed from leases made in the underlying bill would have to be sold in the United States.

The motion required that all the oil and natural gas generated from the new leases be sold in the United States. The motion would have also required that the number of non-producing leases be cutting in half by 2017. [CQ Floor Votes, 5/12/11]

The motion failed 180-243. [HR 1231, [Vote #319](#), 5/12/11]

## **Voted Against Determining the Benefit of Lowering Environmental Standards for Off-shore Drilling**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which required the EPA administrator to determine if a Republican bill would actually result in lower gas prices at the pump.

The motion would have required the EPA administrator to study whether relaxing the off-shore oil and gas permitting process, as laid out in the Republicans' underlying bill, would actually reduce the cost of gas per gallon at gas stations. Republicans on the House Energy and Commerce Committee suggested that this bill would lower gas prices. [House Energy and Commerce Press Release, [6/22/11](#); Congressional Record, [6/22/11](#)]

The motion failed 177-245. [HR 2021, [Vote #477](#), 6/22/11]

## **Voted to Limit Outer Continental Shelf Drilling Regulations**

In 2011, Tipton voted to limit the EPA's ability to regulate drilling on the outer continental shelf.

The bill limited the EPA to six months to deny air pollution permits for offshore rigs and platforms. The bill also "limits challenges to the EPA's appeals board and restricts which emissions can be evaluated." [[Washington Post, 6/23/11](#)]

The bill passed 253-166. [HR 2021, [Vote #478](#), 6/22/11]

## **Voted to Place an Artificial Deadline on Keystone XL Oil Pipeline Permit**

In 2011, Tipton voted to implement a deadline on the Obama Administration to make a ruling on the Keystone XL oil pipeline permit.

The bill forced the Obama Administration to make a ruling to approve or disapprove of the Keystone XL oil pipeline permit either by November 1, 2011, or within 30 days after the final environmental impact statement. Critics of the pipeline argued that the bill would block federal agencies and the public from fully weighing in on an environmental impact statement that was to be issued by the State Department.

Rep. Gerry Connolly called the pipeline's promise of more domestic petroleum products a "charade." [[The Houston Chronicle](#), 7/27/11; CQ Floor Votes, 7/26/11]

The bill passed 279-147. [HR 1938, [Vote #650](#), 7/26/11]

### **Voted Against Cutting Oil and Gas Subsidies Instead of Education to Balance the Budget**

In 2011, Tipton voted against prioritizing subsidies for major oil and gas companies and corporate jets as spending cuts before cutting education spending to help balance the budget.

The motion would have amended the underlying bill "to make sure it raised taxes on corporate jets and oil companies before cutting funding for education." [[Buffalo News](#), 7/30/11; CQ Floor Votes, 7/29/11]

The motion failed 183-244. [S. 627, [Vote #676](#), 7/29/11]

### **Voted to Require the President to Approve the Keystone XL Pipeline Permit**

In 2011, Tipton voted to require the President to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline within 60 days of the bill becoming a law.

The bill required President Obama to approve the Keystone XL pipeline within 60 days of the bill becoming law unless "it is determined that the pipeline is not in the national interest." [CQ Floor Vote, 12/13/11]

The bill passed 234-193. [HR 3630, [Vote #923](#), 12/13/11]

## **Other Social Issues**

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Supported the death penalty*
- ✓ *Did not believe in the concept of hate crimes*

✓ *Opposed gay marriage*

**Scott Tipton supported the death penalty. He also has expressed support for marriage being defined as between one man and one woman. Scott Tipton also does not believe conceptually in the idea of a hate crime.**

**Voted Against Repealing Death Penalty**

In 2009, Tipton voted against repealing the death penalty. At the time the bill passed the state House, it declared the Assembly's intent was for any savings from the abolition of the death penalty to increase funding for the Cold Case Homicide Team.

The bill was expected to reduce expenditures by over \$1 million for fiscal year 2009-10 and 2010-11. [HB09-1274 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 3/31/09]

The bill passed the House, 33-32, but the Assembly could not resolve the bill in conference. [HB09-1274, House Journal page 1296, 4/21/09]

**Did Not Believe in the Concept of Hate Crimes**

In a 2010 Southern Colorado Patriots Club questionnaire, Tipton answered "no" when asked if he believed in the concept of hate crimes. [Southern Colorado Patriots Club Candidates Survey, 2010]

**Supported Traditional Marriage**

In 2006, Rocky Mountain News reported that Tipton supported traditional marriage. [Rocky Mountain News, 10/20/06]

**Voted Against Designating Benefits for Unwed Couples**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that would enable two people, including unmarried people and gay couples, to enter into a designated beneficiary agreement to share benefits and jointly plan estates.

The bill would ease estate planning, property purchases, medical decisions, insurance disbursements, visitation rights in hospitals and other benefits.

The governor's spokesman described the bill as a "low-cost option for people to put their end-of-life matters in order." [Denver Post, 4/10/09; HB09-1260 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 5/28/09]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 39-24. [HB09-1260, House Journal page 896, 3/25/09]

**Opposed Providing Domestic Partners of State Employees with Health Insurance Coverage**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that added domestic partners to the list of dependents of state employees eligible for health insurance coverage.

Domestic partners, for the purposes of the bill, was defined as a same sex individual, involved in a committed relationship for at least a year but with the intention to indefinitely, and who is not married to another person. [2009 Digest of Bills]

“Public and private employers across the country recognize partner benefits as an inexpensive option to attract and retain the best employees and to promote fairness and equality in the workplace,” Ritter spokesman Evan Dreyer wrote in an e-mail after the bill was signed. [[Denver Post](#), 5/21/09]

The bill passed the House, 34-30. [SB09-88, House Journal page 1521, 4/28/09]

### **Received a D Rating from the Colorado Humane Voters League**

In 2010, Tipton received a D rating from the Colorado Humane Voters League. The Colorado Humane Voters League is a non-profit organization advocating for animals in the political arena. [Colorado Humane Voters League Legislature Voting Record, 2010]

### **Voted Against Selling Nursing Home**

In 2009, Tipton voted against allowing the head of the Department of Human Services to sell the Trinidad state nursing home and use the money for state nursing homes.

The Department said that it was no longer willing to subsidize the facility which had been losing millions of dollars a year for some time. The facility was the only state-owned facility in Colorado. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/26/09]

A department spokesman said that the facility had been losing \$3.4 million a year since 1999. About 85 percent of residents were on Medicaid, which only paid \$188 a day. The building was expanded to handle up to 250 residents even though its license only allowed 119. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/15/09]

The bill passed the House, 40-24. [SB09-56, House Journal page 959, 3/31/09]

### **Urged to Find New Mission for Fort Lyon Correctional Facility**

Tipton was urged to work to find a new mission for the Fort Lyon Correctional Facility. Closure of the facility was delayed for six months and there were concerns that the prison would be shuttered. [Editorial, [Chieftain](#), [3/17/11](#)]

### **Backed Bill to Allow Community Banks to Amortize Part of Commercial Real Estate Losses**

In 2011, Tipton introduced The Capital Access for Main Street (CAMS) Act which was designed to temporarily allow small community banks amortize a portion of their commercial real estate losses over a seven-year period.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. They account for most of our nation’s new jobs, employ half of the country’s private sector workforce, and provide for half of the nonfarm, private real GDP in the U.S.,” Tipton said. “Our CAMS bill will free up much needed capital so that community

banks will be able to make responsible loans to small businesses so that they can expand, creating badly needed jobs.” [Colorado Independent, [4/5/11](#)]

### **Failed to Represent Armenian Constituents, Took “Casual View” of Righteous Conduct**

In 2011, it was reported that Colorado's Rocky Mountain Hye Advocates accused Tipton of failing to represent his Armenian constituents. He was accused of receiving campaign donations from corporations aligned with Turkey's substantial lobbying attempt to undercut support in Congress for an Armenian genocide resolution.

Considering Tipton's multiple publicized ethical lapses, Colorado's Rocky Mountain Hye Advocates, a non-partisan Armenian genocide advocate group, speculated that Tipton's “casual view of righteous conduct” might imply his predilection towards human rights issues. [Armenian Reporter, [11/9/11](#)]

### **Touted Job Fair and Support for the Private Sector**

In 2011, Tipton touted his job fair and support for the private sector, while criticizing federal regulations. Tipton said, “I heard directly today about the toll regulation is taking on business in Pueblo. Until Washington can get a handle on the endless regulation and red tape that is continually being piled on businesses; uncertainty will remain, and high unemployment will linger. I am working in Washington to repeal onerous and duplicative regulations, and continuing the fight to get government out of the way so that businesses can do what they do best--create jobs.” [Rep. Tipton, press release, 11/22/11; Pueblo Chieftain, 11/23/11]

### **Tipton Voted Against Providing Assistance to Low Income Seniors**

In 2011, Tipton voted against providing assistance to low income seniors. The amendment would have increased funding for the “Commodity Assistance Program by \$10 million, offset by a reduction of the same amount for salaries and expenses at the Farm Service Agency.” On the House floor, Rep. Richardson stated her amendment would have provided “additional funding for the Commodities Supplemental Food Program, which provides assistance to seniors who have incomes at or below \$14,157.” It was rejected by a vote of 200-224. [H R 2112, Vote #[428](#), 6/15/11; CQ, 6/15/11; Rep. Richardson, Floor Speech, [6/14/11](#)]

### **Headline: “Local Senior Programs At Risk in Federal Budget Cuts; Proposed \$1.1 Billion Cuts Could Impact Seniors”**

In March 2011, it was reported that when the Tipton voted to approve budget cuts in February and March, senior programs were put in jeopardy. Programs such as Foster Grandparent program, Senior Companion program, and the Retired ans Senior Volunteer program (RSVP) were to be potentially eliminated.

Tipton said “The unfortunate reality of the situation is that we have to make some tough cuts if we are going to start to dig ourselves out of a \$1.5 trillion deficit and \$14.3 trillion in debt.”

KJCT News 8 reported “The move could fire 450,000 volunteers and force senior citizens with medical problems to spend thousands of dollars to continue the care.” Volunteers got paid \$2.65 an hour to drive seniors to the doctors and help out around the house. [kjct8, Local Senior Programs At Risk in Federal Budget Cuts,

3/21/11]

## **Voted to Cut Legal Services Funding for Poor**

In 2011, Tipton voted to strike all funding, or an additional \$324.4 million, for the Legal Services Corporation. The program provides funding for essential legal services to almost \$60 million Americans living below 125 percent of the poverty level.

Republicans had earlier proposed an 18 percent cut for the program, or some \$75 million in the \$420 million annual budget of the LSC. Gene Nichol, professor of law at UNC-Chapel hill, noted that studies had shown how for decades millions of poor and near poor Americans had been “effectively priced out of the civil justice system.” [[Charlotte News & Observer](#), Nichol op-ed, 2/28/11]

The amendment failed, 171-259. [HR 1, Duncan amendment #110, Vote #54, [2/16/11](#)]

## **Voted to Change Union-Representation Ballot Counting Rules**

In 2011, Tipton voted for a bill which changed the union-representation ballots rules for rail and airline employees.

The legislation would have reduced the overall funding for the FAA by \$4 billion dollars and contained an anti-union rule which changed the way union-representation ballots are counted for companies governed by the Railway Labor Act, which includes rail and airlines. [CRS Report, [R41666](#), 3/03/11; CQ BillAnalysis, [6/07/11](#)]

The bill passed 223-196. [HR 658, [Vote #220](#), 3/29/11]

## **Voted in Support of the Defense of Marriage Act**

In 2011, Tipton voted to support the Defense of Marriage Act.

The amendment to the Defense Appropriations bill banned the use of any funds to be used in violation of the Defense of Marriage Act. This vote was largely symbolic and was intended to show support for the Defense of Marriage Act according to the author of the amendment. [[Los Angeles Times](#), 7/09/11; [The Hill](#), 7/07/11]

The amendment passed 248-175. [HR 2219, [Vote #516](#), 7/07/11]

## **Voted Against Protecting Seniors from Abusive, Deceptive, or Unfair Practices**

In 2011, Tipton voted against ensuring the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau would retain its ability to protect seniors from abusive, deceptive, or unfair practices.

The motion failed 183-232. [HR 1315, [Vote #620](#), 7/21/11; CQ Floor Votes, 7/21/11]

## **Patriot Act**

## **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Supported the PATRIOT Act without a sunset clause*
- ✓ *Supported the PATRIOT Act without requiring the legislation to comply with the U.S. Constitution*

**Scott Tipton supported the PATRIOT Act without a sunset clause and without requiring the legislation comply with the U.S. Constitution.**

### **Criticized Salazar for Not Supporting the Renewal of the Patriot Act**

In December 2005, Tipton criticized Salazar's vote not to renew the Patriot Act calling it "irresponsible."

Tipton went on to say that the Patriot Act was a "critical weapon in the war on terror" and that the legislation had direct implications on Colorado because of methamphetamine provisions that were in the bill. The Patriot Act included \$20 million dollars in grant funding in 2006 and 2007 to help law enforcement agencies dealing with children who have been affected by the production of methamphetamine.

"I'm having a hard time plugging in where he's coming from," Tipton said of Salazar's vote. "With respect, it doesn't make sense." [\[Daily Sentinel, 12/21/05\]](#)

### **Tipton: "I Support the Patriot Act"**

In September 2006, Tipton expressed his support for the Patriot Act saying the proof of its success was "in the pudding."

At the same time, Salazar criticized Tipton for his indefinite support for the Patriot Act without a sunset clause.

"You support the Patriot Act indefinitely. I will not do that. If we do, the enemy has won," Salazar said. [\[Montrose Daily Press, 9/11/06\]](#)

### **Voted Against Requiring PATRIOT Act Provisions Comply with Constitution**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have added language to the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 that would ensure complete compliance with the U.S. Constitution relating to access to business records, individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers and roving wiretaps.

In addition, it would require expedited review of federal civil proceedings for any allegations of violations of such rights.

The measure failed, 186-234. [HR 514, [Vote #35](#), 2/14/11]

# Social Security

## Significant Findings

- ✓ Said the privatization of Social Security should be considered in 2006
- ✓ Opposed the privatization of Social Security in 2010
- ✓ Accepted campaign funds from proponents of Social Security privatization

**In 2006, Scott Tipton went back and forth on the issue of Social Security privatization. He went on record at that time suggesting that the issue should be a viable option, but ultimately opposed President George W. Bush's plan to privatize Social Security. In 2010, Tipton opposed the privatization and resisted suggestions from John Salazar that he supported privatization at all. In 2010, Tipton promised never to privatize social security. He also accepted campaign contributions from pro-privatization members of congress.**

### **2006: Tipton on Social Security: “We Have to Be Willing ... To Put Privatization on the Table.”**

In August 2006, Tipton said that in order to preserve Social Security for future generations Congress must be willing to privatize Social Security.

“I'll fight to get people who are owed Social Security all they have coming, but we have an obligation to our children and our grandchildren,” Tipton said. “We have to be willing to discuss issues and put privatization on the table.” [\[Durango Herald, 8/12/06\]](#)

### **Privatization Would Cut Benefits...**

According to the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, “privatization is not a plan to save Social Security; it is a plan to dismantle Social Security. Privatization means increased retirement risks, severe cuts in Social Security benefits, and a multi-trillion dollar increase in the federal debt.

“Privatization diverts money out of Social Security into individual accounts leaving an even larger solvency problem. Privatizers fill this funding gap by dramatically cutting Social Security benefits. They cover the rest by borrowing money, thereby increasing the debt burden on all taxpayers by trillions of dollars over the next half century. With market-based accounts, the risk of an adequate retirement is placed entirely on the individual.” [\[National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare website, accessed 7/09/08\]](#)

### **... And Gamble Social Security on Wall Street**

According to the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, “Privatization will replace Social Security’s guaranteed defined benefits with individual investment accounts. In other words, privatization would take money out of Social Security and have workers invest instead in Wall Street.” [www.ncpssm.org/news/archive/vp\_ssprivatization/]

### **DJIA Lost Nearly 40 Percent In One Year**

Had seniors been relying on private social security accounts in the Stock Market during the 2008 collapse, they might have lost nearly 40 percent of their retirement savings in the 12 months leading up to the collapse. On October 9, 2007, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 14,164.53. On October 9, 2008, the Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 8,579.19. [[Yahoo Finance](#)]

### **Wall Street Would Make \$279 Billion in Fees from Social Security Privatization**

In February 2005, Newsday wrote, “No one knows whether workers would prosper in private Social Security accounts, but financial firms would likely pull in big bucks... The Securities Industry Association calculated that the plan would generate at most \$279 billion in fees, or about 8.6 percent of the \$3.3 trillion in the financial sector’s total revenues, over 75 years.” [Newsday, 2/20/05]

### **Did Not Endorse President Bush’s Plan to Privatize Social Security**

In December 2005, Tipton did not endorse the plan proposed by President Bush that would have privatized Social Security accounts at the time. [National Journal, 12/16/05]

### **...But Then Criticized Salazar for Preventing Bush from Privatizing Social Security**

In August 2006, while Bush giving stump speeches around the nation in an effort to push legislation that would privatize social security, Tipton criticized Salazar for proposing legislation that would prevent privatization of social security.

“I think the long-term problems are serious enough that you can't just close your mind to other options,” Tipton said, noting he would not change the benefit system for anyone receiving Social Security. “I don't think young people believe that Social Security will be there for them in the future.” [Pueblo Chieftain, 8/29/06]

### **...And Then Pledged to Protect Social Security from Spending Cuts**

In October 2006, Tipton pledged to protect Social Security from spending cuts and stated that opponent John Salazar’s comments claiming he supported spending reductions to the program were incorrect.

Tipton commented, “That's a lie. I've never said that... You take this to the bank. I will stand up and I will guarantee that you will get every red cent that you are entitled to for Social Security.” [Montrose Daily Press, [10/17/2006](#)]

## **2010: Did not Support Privatizing Social Security**

In 2010, Tipton said that he did not support privatizing Social Security.

“I do not support privatizing or cutting Social Security. Never have. Here's the real problem. John Salazar voted for the failed stimulus, government run health care and budget-busting bailout. He raided the Social Security trust fund to pay for this reckless spending.” [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/16/10]

### **Promised Not to Privatize Social Security**

In 2010, Tipton promised that he would not support the privatization of social security. [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 09/22/10]

### **Accused Salazar of Raiding Social Security to pay for the Stimulus and Health Care Reform**

In 2010, Tipton accused Salazar of using money from Social Security to pay for the Stimulus, health care reform, and TARP.

“John Salazar voted for the failed stimulus, government run health care and budget-busting bailout. He raided the Social Security trust fund to pay for this reckless spending.” [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/16/10]

## **Took Money from Key Supporters of Social Security Privatization**

In 2010, Tipton was supported by the congressional leadership that wanted to privatize Social Security. Tipton received \$5,000 from both Speaker Boehner and Majority Leader Cantor. [CQ Money Line, accessed 7/6/11]

*Note: Appendix III gives a full description of Tipton’s campaign fundraising by fellow House members, many of who may have been supporters of Social Security privatization before Tipton was elected to Congress.*

### **Boehner Supported Privatizing Social Security**

In 2006, Boehner “said Republicans were ‘going to get serious’ about privatization and other reforms of Social Security following the 2006 elections.” [Burlington Free Press, 8/04/06]

### **Cantor Supported Privatizing Social Security**

In 2005, Cantor said that he backed the key proposal of Bush’s Social Security privatization plan, the creation of private accounts for younger workers.

According to the Richmond Times Dispatch:

Representative Eric I. Cantor, R-7th, said the option for younger workers to save in a personal account is something he backs. The chief deputy majority whip

emphasized that Bush provided a “framework” for lawmakers when they return to work next week.

“He has sort of painted his vision of where he would like to see Social Security go. . . . It will really be up to us in Congress to see if we can get there,” Cantor said. [Richmond Times Dispatch, 2/03/05]

### **Sessions Supported Privatizing Social Security**

In 2006, asked about his plan for Social Security, Sessions replied:

Anticipating future cuts to Social Security, Galveston County employees voted overwhelmingly in 1981 to opt out of Social Security and create an alternative plan at virtually no risk to beneficiaries. This alternative plan pools employee money and lends it to a top-rate financial institution in return for guaranteed rates. Annual returns average 8 percent a year.

Americans work hard for their retirement, and they deserve the option to choose personal retirement accounts based on successful models. Galveston County employees adopted a safe and effective retirement plan. Likewise, all Americans deserve access to a proven model - one that's as safe as money in the bank. [Dallas Morning News, 3/04/05]

### **Said It Was an Obligation to Make Social Security “Equivalent or Even Better Than What Our Current Senior Citizens are Receiving”**

In 2011, Tipton said it was obligation to make sure that the benefits future generations receive are “equivalent or even better than what our current senior citizens are receiving.”

“I think that... we have an obligation to our senior citizens that are receiving Social Security, to those who are about to receive it. And we also have another obligation, again, to our children and our grandchildren. And we need to be able to have that conversation in terms of how are we going to make sure that their opportunities are going to be the equivalent or even better than what our current senior citizens are receiving.” [Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Tipton: Salazar Holding the “Democratic Party Line” on Issues like Social Security**

In March 2005, Tipton, while calling Salazar a “pleasant fellow,” accused him of siding with “the old-time Democratic Party Line” on issues like Social Security.

A week before Tipton made that statement Salazar introduced legislation that would prevent Social Security payroll taxes from being diverted to establish private accounts. [Cortez Journal, 3/22/05]

### **Voted Against Protecting Social Security and Medicare Benefits from Privatization**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have prohibited continuing appropriations funds for fiscal year 2011 for being used in developing or implementing a system that cuts Social Security benefits or that privatizes Social Security.

The amendment also prohibited funds from being used to develop or implement a system that cuts Medicare benefits, eliminates guaranteed health coverage for seniors or establishes a Medicare voucher plan that limits payments to beneficiaries in order to purchase health care in the private sector.

The motion failed, 190-239. [HJR 48, [Vote #178](#), 2/15/11]

### **Salazar Asked to Pull Ad Accusing Tipton of Wanting to Cut Social Security and Medicare in Half**

In 2010, Tipton formally called upon Congressman John Salazar to stop “running a negative campaign television commercial that egregiously distorts Tipton’s statements on Social Security and Medicare.”

Tipton said that Salazar’s television ad falsely accused him of wanting to privatize social security, cut social security and Medicare benefits in half, and saying that Tipton believed that Social Security and Medicare benefits will have to be phased out altogether.

“I ask John Salazar to immediately withdraw the false and misleading Social Security negative attack ad he is running. I have made it clear on my website and I made it clear directly to Congressman Salazar at the recent Club 20 Debate that I do not support privatizing or cutting Social Security. To say differently in a paid advertisement is patently false and is simply designed to scare senior citizens,” said Tipton.  
[Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/16/10]

### **Said Social Security Should be in a Secure Trust Fund**

In 2010, Tipton said that social security was supposed to be in a secure trust fund and that because of Salazar and Nancy Pelosi it was not.

“Social Security is supposed to be in a secure trust fund, but through the efforts of those including John Salazar, Nancy Pelosi and the rest of the Democratic leadership, it continues to be raided to support rabid, irresponsible government spending sprees that are going to bankrupt America.”  
[Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 9/16/10]

### **Said He was Looking at Ways to Address Future of Social Security**

In February 2011 floor remarks Tipton said “we have an obligation to our senior citizens that are receiving Social Security, to those who are about to receive it. And we also have another obligation, again, to our children and our grandchildren. And we need to be able to have that conversation in terms of how are we going to make sure that their opportunities are going to be the equivalent or even better than what our current senior citizens are receiving.”

He went on to say “We are compassionate people. We will stand up for our senior citizens. It’s a pledge that I made that I will keep for our senior citizens that are receiving Social Security. But I’m also making a pledge to our children and our grandchildren. We are going to be looking at ways to be able to address

this so that their future can be as bright and they're going to be looking at a better America as well.”  
[Tipton Floor Remarks, 2/10/11]

### **Wrote that He Strengthened Medicare by Voting for Republican Budget**

In 2011, Tipton claimed that he would protect seniors Medicare and Social Security. He said he would strengthen and secure Medicare for future generations through the Republican budget. “The message of seniors in the Third District is clear: any health care or budget solution should strengthen Medicare and secure it for future generations. I ensured that this was incorporated in the Republican budget, which we passed in the House earlier this year. The Republican budget keeps Medicare as it is for those 55 and older, while strengthening and sustaining the program for our children and grandchildren.” [Op-ed, Rep. Tipton, [Craig Daily Press, 9/2/11](#)]

### **Claimed the Medicare Plan He Backed Kept Promise so Seniors Would Receive Promised Benefits**

In 2011, Tipton wrote that the Republican budget strengthened Medicare and increased affordability. He said he would keep his promise to keep Medicare strong and “protect seniors and those a decade from retirement, ensuring that they receive their promised benefits in full.” [Op-ed, Rep. Tipton, [Craig Daily Press, 9/2/11](#)]

## Piñon Canyon Army Site Expansion

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Promised not to support military expansion in Piñon Canyon*
- ✓ *Did not plan to introduce a funding ban on Piñon Canyon expansion in January 2011*
- ✓ *Opposed permanent restrictions on military expansion in Piñon Canyon*
- ✓ *Supported a plan to ban funding for Piñon Canyon in February 2011*
- ✓ *House passed appropriations bill without banning funding for Piñon Canyon*
- ✓ *Funding ban was restored to House appropriations bill*

**As a Colorado state legislator, Scott Tipton opposed the expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site, military facility that many ranchers saw as an encroachment on their land. He campaigned for Congress promising the same thing to Western Colorado ranchers. Upon entering Congress, Tipton continued the rhetoric of opposing Piñon Canyon's expansion, but did not commit to a funding ban for Piñon Canyon expansion. Later on, Tipton resisted calls from Colorado state legislators seeking a permanent ban for expansion at the Piñon Canyon site. In May of 2011, the House Appropriations Committee released a 2012 budget that fully funded the expansion of Piñon Canyon. This angered Colorado ranchers and five days later a ban was restored in the appropriations bill.**

### **April 2009: Tipton Opposed Expansion of Piñon Canyon Site**

In April 2009, Tipton opposed the expansion of Piñon Canyon site warning that expansion would hurt the livelihood of ranchers in the area.

“We aren't simply taking a house; we aren't taking a sliver of land to put a highway through...We are taking livelihoods.” [Denver Post, 4/08/09]

### **November 20, 2010: Pledged to Ranchers that He would not Support Piñon Expansion**

On the campaign trail in 2010 Tipton told ranchers he would not support the expansion of Piñon Canyon and would protect landowners. [Associated Press, 11/20/10]

### **January 21, 2011: No Plans to Continue Funding Ban on Piñon Expansion**

As of January 2011, Tipton had no plans to introduce a funding ban on the Army's possible expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site even though he opposes the expansion.

There had been a federal funding ban on expansion sponsored by former Congressman John Salazar in 2007 and renewed every year since. Tipton's spokesman said the Congressman would meet with "key stakeholders" in the district before making a decision. [[Trinidad Times](#), 1/21/11]

### **January 27, 2011: Opposed to the Expansion of Piñon Canyon**

Tipton's spokesman said he was opposed to expanding Piñon Canyon "He is opposed to expansion and is committed to hearing all sides and listening to his constituents before making a decision on what the next steps are."

Ranchers have questioned whether Tipton would support the funding ban authorized by John Salazar that prohibited expansion. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/27/11]

### **February 02, 2011: Opposed Permanent Restrictions on Piñon Canyon Expansion**

In 2011, Tipton told State Representative Sal Pace that he opposed expanding the Army training ground in Las Animas but that a permanent measure to prevent expansion was too restrictive.

Tipton also told state Pace that the Army training ground in Las Animas County would not happen because the Army had no budget for it.

But he did not agree with Pace's call for a permanent ban on expansion of the training site.  
"Your word, saying 'permanent,' may be too restrictive," Tipton said. [[Durango Herald](#), 2/02/11]

### **February 3, 2011: "Window Open For Piñon Expansion"**

In February 2011, Tipton considered the possibility of future expansion of Piñon Canyon, saying he would not support a permanent ban on expansion. In refusing to support any permanent ban on expansion, Tipton said that "circumstances may change down the road in the national interest." [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/3/11]

### **Piñon Canyon Expansion Stance Disappointed State Legislator**

In February 2011, House Minority Leader Sal Pace, who questioned Tipton about the expansion at Piñon Canyon, said he "was disappointed that he was so dismissive about some of the concerns in Southeastern Colorado. We have a new congressman, and I guess he has new priorities." [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/3/11]

### **February 7, 2011: Promised to Push for Funding Ban for Piñon Canyon**

Tipton opposed expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site on the campaign trail and said he would back the federal funding ban.

"I'm not going to do anything to hurt the farm and ranch community and I've given my word on that."  
[[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

### **March 11, 2011: Remained Non-Comittal on Piñon Canyon Expansion**

In March 2011, Tipton made no concrete steps towards making sure the funding ban implemented by Ken Salazar against the expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site stayed in place. U.S. Senators Michael Bennet and Mark Udall called on the U.S. Army for written assurance that the military had no plans to expand the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site.

Tipton's office told the [Times Independent](#) that he intended to meet with stakeholders on the issue. His spokesperson said "It's a complicated issue, and we want to make sure that we're doing what people want...if it turns out that the best solution to that is to introduce another amendment to a (continuing resolution

, which are used to fund government agencies if, at the end of the fiscal year, a formal funding resolution was not passed) or something in that regard..." [[Trinidad Times](#), 3/11/11]

### **March 15, 2011: Sought Meeting with Secretary McHugh on Piñon Canyon Expansion**

In March 2011, Tipton said he sought a meeting with Secretary McHugh so Congressional outreach to the Pentagon would result in a hold on the expansion of the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 3/15/11]

### **April 2011: Army Had No Immediate Plans to Expand Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site**

In April 2011, an editorial in the [Pueblo Chieftain](#) reported that the Army had no immediate plans to expand the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. Scott Tipton approached Secretary McHugh over expansion concerns. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 4/3/11]

### **April Continued to Oppose Backing Permanent Funding Ban on Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site Expansion**

In April 2011, Tipton claimed he was opposed to the expansion of the Piñon Canyon maneuver site, however, he continued to avoid answering whether he would support a permanent funding ban on expansion, claiming there needed to be more dialogue. Ranchers complained that the lack of certainty surrounding the base prevented bankers from lending them money due to the possibility that their land could be taken by eminent domain.

At a meeting, residents in the area said the base expansion was a dark cloud hanging over their heads. "What are you going to do to get rid of this dark cloud that's hanging over us that's been threatening our community for years?" asked one member of the audience in a reference to the Piñon Canyon project. "We need some action from you." That comment drew the biggest round of applause of the night. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 4/27/11]

### **May 20, 2011: House Appropriations Passed Bill without Blocking Piñon Canyon Funding**

In 2011, the House appropriations subcommittee in charge of military construction passed its 2012 budget bill without blocking the Army from spending money to expand the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site.

Previous funding bans had been bipartisan, being authored by former Colorado Representatives John Salazar and Marilyn Musgrave. Tipton previously told ranchers at a Trinidad meeting that he intended to keep the funding moratorium in place.

### **Promised to Offer an Amendment Banning Funding for Piñon Canyon**

In May 2011, Scott Tipton promised to offer an amendment to the appropriations bill and have the funding restored.

“Congressman Tipton is going to offer an amendment — to restore the funding ban — when the military construction bill comes to the full House floor for consideration,” Josh Green, Tipton’s spokesman. “We’ve gotten permission from the House (Republican) leadership to offer that amendment.”

Ranchers reacted to the news that the funding ban had been lifted with alarm.

“We’re deeply disappointed that this has happened...Mr. Tipton told us he intended to keep the moratorium in place while he worked for a long-term solution. We’d told him that we’d support him if he’d support us, so we weren’t expecting this. I hope he intends to restore the funding moratorium.”  
[[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/20/11](#)]

### **May 25, 2011: Funding Ban for Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site Restored**

In May 2011, just five days after a subcommittee on the House Appropriations committee released a budget restoring funding to Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site, a funding ban was restored for the area. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/25/11](#)]

### **Representative John Culberson Offered the Funding Ban Amendment**

In 2011, Representative John Culberson, R-Texas, who chairs the subcommittee on military construction and veterans affairs, offered up the amendment to restore a funding ban to Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site. [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/25/11](#)]

### **Army Had No Immediate Plans to Expand Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site**

In 2011, an editorial in the Chieftain reported that the Army had not immediate plans to expand the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site. Scott Tipton approached Secretary McHugh over expansion concerns. [Editorial, [Chieftain, 4/3/11](#)]

### **Asked Army Officials to Conduct Public Hearings on their Pending Request to Use Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site for Training**

In 2011, Tipton asked Army officials to conduct public meetings regarding their request to use property within the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site for training. According to the [Pueblo Chieftain](#), “The Army

request isn't unexpected and BLM [Bureau of Land Management] approval is almost a certainty, but Tipton's call for multiple public hearings signals that the Republican congressman for the 3rd Congressional District is staying focused on the Pinon Canyon dispute — a five-year-old battle between the Army and the Southeastern Colorado ranchers who oppose the Pentagon's efforts to expand the 238,000-acre training range." [\[Pueblo Chieftain, 6/8/11\]](#)

### **Tipton Initially Left Out Moratorium on Expansion of Pinon Canyon**

In 2011, according to the [Pueblo Chieftain](#), "Tipton was under close scrutiny when the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction approved a 2012 budget plan, which left out a yearly moratorium that forbids the Army from spending any money to expand Pinon Canyon. The funding ban has been a major roadblock to the Army since 2008." Tipton brought an amendment "five days later when the full House Appropriations Committee put it back in the 2012 budget" that would continue the moratorium.

On his request for public hearings on the BLM hearing Tipton said "This renewal is expected but I want the public to have the opportunity to make its concerns fully known as part of the official record." [\[Pueblo Chieftain, 6/8/11\]](#)

### **Convinced House Appropriations Subcommittee to Restore Funding Ban for Expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site**

In May 2011, Tipton convinced the Chairman of a House appropriations subcommittee to restore the annual funding ban that blocked the Army from spending any money to expand the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site for the past four years. The ban was in place since 2008.

Ranchers opposed to the Army's efforts to expand their training site northeast of Trinidad. Tipton was under close scrutiny because he promised to defend the funding ban until a long term agreement could be reached.

"All along, I've pledged to stand up for the ranchers of our community and continuing the appropriations ban provides some certainty for the future....however, we need to continue to work together as a team to find a longer-term solution." [\[Chieftain, 5/24/11\]](#)

### **Editorial Reiterated Mistrust in Army in Relation to Pinon Canyon and Commended Tipton for Visiting**

In an editorial the [Pueblo Chieftain](#) said Tipton listened to ranchers about Pinon Canyon. The editorial read "The ranchers and their neighbors in towns such as Trinidad and La Junta have been fighting for years against plans to expand Fort Carson's existing 238,000-acre Army maneuver site." When Tipton visited the site the [Pueblo Chieftain](#) reported that they "tipped their hand, perhaps inadvertently, that they eventually want more Pinon Canyon land by orchestrating the new congressman's tour of the site."

The editorial commended Tipton for visiting the site, but wrote "the Army never delivered on promises that the surrounding communities would benefit economically from the original Pinon Canyon acquisition

in the early 1980s. Thus, we remain skeptical that the Army really means it when it offers to spend more in the area in the future.” [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), [4/28/11](#)]

### **Group Opposed Air Force’s plan for Pinon Canyon to conduct low-altitude special-operations training flights**

In 2011, a group opposed the Air Force’s plan to conduct low-altitude special-operations training flights around Pinon Canyon. Tipton thought he had gotten the Air Force to make adjustments to diffuse criticism that it was trying to increase pressure to expand Pinon Canyon and make it into a joint-force training area, but The Not 1 More Acre! Group filed a complaint against the Army. Their complaint challenged the Air Force’s plan to conduct low-altitude special-operations training flights over portions of the Western Slope and northern New Mexico. [Pueblo Chieftain, 11/5/11]

### **Opposed Funding for Expansion of Military Training Site**

In May 2011, the [Beaumont Enterprise](#) reported that Tipton was “advocating for a funding ban to the Army’s plan to expand a military training site in southern Colorado. The proposed expansion is opposed by farmer and ranchers in the area.” [[Beaumont Enterprise](#), [5/31/11](#)]

*Note: Tipton’s Predecessor, John Salazar also supported funding ban.*

### **FLIP – Tipton’s Spokesman Said He Was Opposed to the Expansion of Pinon Canyon**

Tipton’s spokesman said he was opposed to expanding Pinon Canyon “He is opposed to expansion and is committed to hearing all sides and listening to his constituents before making a decision on what the next steps are.”

Ranchers have questioned whether Tipton would support the funding ban authorized by John Salazar that prohibited expansion. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/27/11]

### **FLOP – Headline: “Tipton: Window Open For Pinon Expansion”**

Tipton left the window open to the expansion of Pinon Canyon, saying it could expand in the future. Tipton refused to say he would support a “permanent ban,” on Pinon Canyon expansion, “Circumstances may change down the road in the national interest.”

House Minority Leader Sal Pace, who asked Tipton the questions about the expansion at Pinon Canyon. He said “I was disappointed that he was so dismissive about some of the concerns in Southeastern Colorado. We have a new congressman, and I guess he has new priorities.” [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/3/11]

### **Editorial Said Tipton Opposed Expanding the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site**

A February 2011 a Pueblo Chieftain editorial said Tipton supported farmers and ranchers in the continued fight to keep the army from expanding the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

### **Opposed Expansion of Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site**

In January 2011, Tipton's spokesman said Tipton was opposed to the expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site and committed to hearing all sides of the argument. [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 1/27/11]

### **Tipton Had No Plans to Continue Federal Funding Ban on Army Site Expansion**

As of January 2011, Tipton had no plans to introduce a funding ban on the Army's possible expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site even though he opposes the expansion.

There had been a federal funding ban on expansion sponsored by former Congressman John Salazar in 2007 and renewed every year since. Tipton's spokesman said the Congressman would meet with "key stakeholders" in the district before making a decision. [[The Trinidad Times](#), 1/21/11]

### **Promised to Push for Funding Ban for Pinon Canyon**

Tipton opposed expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site on the campaign trail and said he would back the federal funding ban.

"I'm not going to do anything to hurt the farm and ranch community and I've given my word on that."  
[[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

## Recovery Act /Stimulus

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ Said the Recovery Act failed
- ✓ Business founded by father and run by family received stimulus funds
- ✓ Voted against using Stimulus funds in Colorado
- ✓ Wanted to use Stimulus funds to pay down debt

Scott Tipton criticized John Salazar in the 2010 congressional race, saying the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, or the stimulus, “failed.” As a state legislator, Tipton voted to prevent stimulus funds to going to projects in Colorado. He also thought that instead of using the Stimulus money on project that the money should go to paying down the national debt. However, in lieu of all Tipton’s criticisms of the stimulus, Triad Western, a business started by his father and uncle and run by members of his family, received \$12 million in stimulus funds.

### **Tipton: Stimulus “Absolutely Failed”**

In 2010, during an interview on Fox News, Tipton, when asked about the effects of the stimulus package on Colorado’s third district, said that the Stimulus Bill had “absolutely failed.”

MR. SCOTT: “What's the stimulus doing there for you in southwestern Colorado?”

MR. TIPTON: “Absolutely failed. John Salazar liked to boast about his stimulus vote. Four hundred three million dollars came into the 3rd Congressional District creating 595.5 jobs. When we do the math, that's \$677,000 per job. We could have cut a check to every man, woman and child in the 3rd District for \$700 or \$800 and probably had a lot better impact. We need to get the private sector back to work. We're putting forward proposals in our campaign to do just that.” [Fox News Channel “Happening Now” Interview, 10/14/10]

### **Business Started by Father Received \$12 Million in Stimulus Funds**

In October 2010, The Denver Post reported that Triad Western Constructors, a business founded by the late Joe D. Tipton Sr. and currently run by the cousin of Scott Tipton, received \$12 million in stimulus package funds. This was in light of Tipton criticizing the stimulus package saying it “has not created jobs.” [Denver Post, 10/23/10]

### **Triad Western Constructors Donated to Tipton’s Congressional Race**

In 2010, Triad Western Constructors contributed \$3,700 to Tipton's race for Congress. Since 2006, when Tipton first ran for congress, Triad Western Contractors contributed more than \$13,000 to Tipton. [ColoradoPols.com, 10/25/10]

### **Accused Salazar of Supporting Useless Projects Outside of the District**

In 2010, Tipton criticized Salazar for supporting the stimulus package, which he criticized for supporting seemingly pointless projects outside of the district.

"Congressman Salazar had the chance to strip out waste, but instead he voted to spend money on lobster research in Maine, a future weatherman program in San Jose and a tattoo removal program in California," said a Republican press release. [Colorado Republican Party Press Release, 09/22/10]

### **Opposed ARRA in the Face of Success in Rural Southwest Colorado**

In 2009, Tipton said that the 2009 stimulus bill was misguided and instead of government projects, it would have been better to cut payroll taxes.

"We're continuing to see unemployment in rural Colorado and businesses being shuttered," said Tipton. [[Durango Herald, 10/18/09](#)]

### **Third Congressional District Benefitted from Recovery Act**

Below is a list of projects and companies who have benefitted from the Recovery Act in Scott Tipton's congressional district. [[Colorado Independent, 10/28/10](#)]

#### **Gunnison County received:**

- \$425,000 for a bike/pedestrian path
- Nearly \$1.6 million in extra unemployment benefits
- Almost \$300,000 to Western State College for upgrades to its heating system
- \$475,000 in loan forgiveness to Gunnison County
- \$150,000 contract to private company for maintenance services in Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park.
- Nearly \$10 million to Western State College to maintain programs
- "Over the last two fiscal years, Western has received approximately \$10 million in federal stabilization," confirmed Brad Baca, vice president for finance and administration at Western State College of Colorado. "These dollars have been used to offset massive reductions in state support. Without them, the viability of the college would have been seriously threatened." [[Colorado Independent, 10/28/10](#)]

#### **La Plata County received:**

- Nearly \$10 million for transportation projects
- More than \$6 million in extra unemployment benefits
- More than \$14.7 million for Fort Lewis College

- More than \$2 million to county schools
- More than \$2 million in loans to business
- “Stimulus funding has been extremely important to Fort Lewis College during these very difficult economic times,” said public affairs officer Mitch Davis. He said the money has been used to pay staff and faculty salaries.
- “The most valuable thing we got from the stimulus funding was time, he said. “We knew cuts were coming but because we had this money we were able to take the time to plan for the cuts and make them in a thoughtful way rather than a reactionary way,” he said. [[Colorado Independent](#), 10/28/10]

#### **Elsewhere in the district:**

- More than \$11 million to Adams State College
- \$2 million to build a medical facility in Rifle
- Nearly \$3 million to Colorado Mountain College [[Colorado Independent](#), 10/28/10]

#### **Wanted to Put Remaining Stimulus Money Toward Paying Off Debt**

In 2011, Tipton believed that the remaining money unspent from the American Recover and Reinvestment Act should be used to reduce the national debt. [[Valley Courier](#), [2/01/11](#)]

#### **Voted Against Taking Advantage of Federal Stimulus Funding**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that clarified the process for public entities to take advantage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Funding in the stimulus bill provided new federal funds to states and local governments to subsidize interest payments on stimulus-related bonds to lower borrowing costs for certain construction projects. The bill would establish how federally established caps on the volume of bonds would be administered. [HB09-1346 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/15/09]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 45-20. [HB09-1346, House Journal page 1819, 5/05/09]

#### **Voted Against Expediting Projects Funded by Recovery Act**

In 2009, Tipton voted against expediting contracts for projects funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The bill allowed agencies to waive certain procedures to expedite the use of recovery funds and for the executive director of the Department of Transportation to award highway project contracts to responsible bidders. [SB09-297 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/12/09; 2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed the House, 43-22. [SB09-297, House Journal page 1789, 5/05/09]

#### **Voted to Terminate Program Helping Home Owners**

In 2011, Tipton voted to terminate the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP). HAMP provided funds to mortgage services to help reduce mortgage holders' monthly payments.

The bill terminated the Treasury Department's authority to provide new assistance under the Home Affordable Modification Program (HAMP). HAMP provided financial incentives to mortgage servicers that are intended to reduce borrowers' monthly payments to no more than 31 percent of monthly income. The Treasury Department allocated \$30 billion in Troubled Asset Relief Program funds for HAMP. [CQ House Action Reports, [3/28/11](#)]

The bill passed 252-170. [HR 839, [Vote #198](#), 3/29/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion which would have allowed the HAMP to continue for active duty servicemen, their spouses or parents, or Gold Star eligible families. The motion failed 185-238. [HR 839, [Vote #197](#), 3/29/11]

## Tea Party Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Seen as an “establishment” Republican in the eyes of the Tea Party*
- ✓ *Criticized for supporting the PATRIOT Act*

**Scott Tipton is seen as an “establishment” Republican by many members of the Tea Party. His challenger was backed in the primary by Sarah Palin, which went further to hurt his standing amongst several Tea Party members. Tipton supports and voted for the PATRIOT Act, which many Tea Party members see as a violation of personal liberties.**

### Tea Party Skeptical of Tipton as an Establishment Republican

In 2010, many within the Tea Party movement were skeptical of Tipton as an “establishment Republican.” Sarah Palin backed his challenger, the tea party preferred candidate in the primary, and only endorsed Tipton in late September. Karl Rove, on the other hand, raised money for Tipton. [[Denver Post, 8/11/10](#)]

### Appealed To Tea Party to Help Prevent Primary with Bob McConell

In 2010, Tipton attended a meeting with Tea Party activists at a local church to talk them into preventing McConell from getting the 30percent vote needed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District assembly to run against him in a primary.

If McConnell were not able to get 30 percent of the vote, he would have had to circulate petitions to qualify for the primary. Tipton wanted GOP activists to end McConnell's bid that week.

“If we have a primary, we'll give John Salazar a free ride all the way to August,” Tipton said. [[Durango Herald, 5/19/10](#)]

### 2010: Promised to Vote the Way He Answered on a Tea Party Questionnaire

In 2010, Tipton, on a Tea Party Questionnaire form, answered “Yes” to the question “If elected, will you vote the way you have answered these questions, regardless of your party's position?” The question was part of the Southern Colorado Patriots Club Questionnaire. [[ColoradoPols.com, 9/17/10](#)]

### Tipton: “I Will Be Nobody's Rubber Stamp”

In 2006, in an attempt to tout his independent minded approach to being a Congressman, Tipton said that “No one and nobody owns me...I will be nobody's rubber stamp.” [[Denver Post, 10/04/06](#)]

## **Supported the PATRIOT Act**

In September 2006, Tipton expressed his support for the Patriot Act saying the proof of its success was ‘in the pudding.’

At the same time, Salazar criticized Tipton for his indefinite support for the Patriot Act without a sunset clause.

“You support the Patriot Act indefinitely. I will not do that. If we do, the enemy has won,” Salazar said.  
[Montrose Daily Press, 9/11/06]

## **Voted Against Requiring PATRIOT Act Provisions Comply with Constitution**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have added language to the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 that would ensure complete compliance with the U.S. Constitution relating to access to business records, individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers and roving wiretaps.

In addition, it would require expedited review of federal civil proceedings for any allegations of violations of such rights.

The measure failed, 186-234. [HR 514, [Vote #35](#), 2/14/11]

## **Criticized by Northern Colorado Tea Party for Voting in Support of the PATRIOT Act**

In February 2011, Tipton faced criticism from local Tea Party groups for voting in support of the PATRIOT Act.

“When our elected officials swear to uphold the Constitution, yet are willing to trample it in the name of so-called “security”, something is going seriously wrong,” said Northern Colorado Tea Party’s website. [Northern Colorado Tea Party, 2/11/11]

## **Touted Support from Tea Party**

In an interview on the G. Gordon Liddy Radio Show Tipton said he had great support from Tea Party. “We had great Tea Party support, 9/12 group support and from the traditional Republican Party as well and the mantle was saying that Washington is out of control and many people were just like me; I am a small businessman. ..Years, we have seen Washington continue to work in it’s traditional fashions and nothing has ever really been accomplished and I think many of us have gone with the mission of changing the way Washington truly does business. [G. Gordon Liddy radio show, 2:15, [3/23/11](#)]

## **Headline: Tea Party-Wave Freshman Tipton Hits Politics-As-Usual Ethics Bump**

In 2011, the Colorado Independent reported that Tipton entered office touting the fact that he would shake up business-as-usual in Washington. However, “just months into his term he has admitted to the House

Ethics Committee that his daughter has been using his office to promote the tele-townhall company where she's employed."

The Colorado Independent wrote, "the details of the charge underline an establishment attitude that views government as an all-in-the-family cash cow that trades almost entirely on access. As Tea Partiers might say, it's not a government of the people, it's a government of insiders looking to tap resources and line their pockets for as long as they can stay in office." [\[Colorado Independent, 5/27/11\]](#)

## Tax Issues

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Supported the Fair Tax Plan*
- ✓ *Wanted to make the Bush tax cuts permanent*
- ✓ *Supported dramatic reductions to the corporate tax rate*
- ✓ *Supported “Clinton and Reagan’s” policies on taxes*

**Tipton is a proponent of the FairTax, a policy that would cause a dramatic increase in sales tax for all Americans. He also pushed for President Bush’s tax cuts being made permanent. In addition to those tax cuts, Tipton has advocated for a dramatic reduction in the corporate tax rate, from 35 percent down to 10 percent. However, Tipton has also suggested that he supports the tax rate policies of former Presidents Bill Clinton and Ronald Reagan.**

### **Signed the Americans for Tax Reform Pledge**

In 2010, Scott Tipton signed the Americans for Tax Reform campaign pledge. The pledge required members of congress to oppose any effort to increase the marginal income tax rate on individuals or businesses. It also required members to oppose any net reduction or elimination of tax credits. [Americans for Tax Reform, 112<sup>th</sup> Congress Pledge Signers, accessed 7/11/11]

### **Wanted to Close Corporate Tax Loopholes so Corporations Pay Fair Share of Taxes**

In 2011, during a tele-town hall meeting, Tipton said he wanted to eliminate areas in the tax code that he said push businesses to move jobs overseas. At the same time, he said large corporations such as Exxon and General Electric should pay their fair share of income taxes.

“The government has been picking the winners and losers with its tax code,” he said. [[Durango Herald, 4/07/11](#)]

### **Tipton: “Let Business Do What It Wants To Do”**

In 2011, while discussing lowering taxes for corporations as well as closing tax loopholes, Tipton also said, “We need to eliminate loopholes, and let business do what it wants to do.” [[Durango Herald, 4/07/11](#)]

### **Voted to Protect Tax Breaks for Big Oil**

In March 2011, Tipton voted against a measure that would have repealed oil and tax production tax breaks for major integrated oil companies (the “Big 5”) for the proposed two week period in the House budget resolution.

The motion, offered by Rep. Bill Keating (MA-10), was not adopted 176-249. [HJR 44, [Vote #153](#), 3/01/11]

## 2006: Considered Fair Tax Policy

In August 2006, Tipton considered the “Fair Tax” policy for finding ways to simplify the U.S. tax code.

“It’s not a perfect answer,” Tipton said. “It would eliminate the IRS because all taxes would be collected at the register. We’ve added 12,000 pages to the tax code but even the IRS isn’t able to explain it. It doesn’t need to be brain surgery, but we’re inflicting pain on people.” [[Durango Herald](#), 8/12/06]

### Tipton: “Seriously Exploring” a Fair Tax Policy

In December 2005, Tipton believed that a fair tax policy should be “seriously” explored.

Tipton’s Fair Tax plan would be to completely eliminate the Internal Revenue Service and replace it with a “fair tax,” which is a 17 percent to 23 percent tax on consumption. Under the proposal there are no taxes on interest or dividends, and employees get their whole paychecks, he said.

“When you pay tax, it’s at the register,” Tipton said. “You decide when you’re going to pay (the tax) with purchases.”

In speaking with [The Cortez Journal](#), Tipton gave an example of how a \$2 Christmas card could total \$2.25 under a “fair tax.” However, the overall price for a \$1,000 refrigerator could increase to nearly \$1,250.

Tipton said the “fair tax” would empower the American people with their own dollars, while not eliminating food stamps and other similar assistance. It would also allow businesses to build cost into their own products.

“There would be a lag period, but eventually I think you would see prices level out closer to what the tax is,” he said. “Everything becomes a budgetary item.” [[The Cortez Journal](#), 12/22/05]

## 2010: Supported Fair Tax System

In a 2010 Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, Tipton said that one of the ways to increase great government effectiveness would be “if possible, go to a fair tax system would go a long way in taking power away from Washington and return it to the people.” [Liberty Central Congressional Candidates Survey, 2010]

*NOTE: Because the language of Tipton’s answer could be considered questionable, below is an exact copy of the way Tipton answered the question and the context in which it was asked.*

<b>10. Do you believe the government is eroding the Founders' vision of faith, family, and culture and, if so, how?</b>	Yes! The government has to get out of the business of over regulating the lives of American citizens. Power has to be in the hands of the people and the states in which they live.
<b>11. Would you commit to solid, informed congressional oversight if you were in Washington, D.C. -- not random acts of after-sight or political grandstanding? If so, give us at least two areas in which you would want to better learn and ask questions of our government to seek the effectiveness of programs, curtail the growth of the federal largesse, or properly oversee the enforcement of current laws?</b>	Audit every department of the federal government. If possible, go to a fair tax system that would go a long way in taking power away from Washington and return it to the people. Hopefully change the way judges on the supreme court are appointed with assurances that constitution is upheld as our founders designed it.

## The Fair Tax Would Eliminate Federal Income Taxes for Corporations

According to Americans for Fair Taxation, the group that is backing the effort to impose a Fair Tax, the tax would replace the individual income tax, payroll taxes, the corporate income tax, the self-employment tax, and the estate tax. [Americans for Fair Taxation, “The Fair Tax Act of 2007 – HR 25: Plain English Summary,” [fairtax.org](http://fairtax.org), accessed 7/30/08]

### ... Though Fair Tax Hits Families Buying Essentials

Under the Fair Tax, families would be hit hard, paying a 23 percent sales tax on nearly everything they buy, including groceries, prescription drugs, clothing, and gas.

*NOTE: The Fair Tax does not apply to the purchase of used goods or education expenses. Hence the use of “nearly” instead of “all”.*

### Fair Tax Would Apply to All Goods and Services Sold at Retail

According to Americans for Fair Taxation, the group that is backing the effort to impose a Fair Tax, the tax would apply to all goods and services sold at retail.

It would NOT apply to the purchase of used goods or to education expenses.

From Americans for Fair Taxation:

Effective January 1, 2009 it replaces the above taxes with a national retail sales tax on all goods and services sold at retail. The tax rate is set to be revenue neutral – at the level necessary to replace the revenues generated by the repealed taxes. ... A 23-percent (of the tax-inclusive sales price) sales tax is imposed on all retail sales for personal consumption of new goods and services. Exports and the purchase of inputs by businesses (i.e., intermediate sales) are not taxed, nor are used goods or any savings, investment, or education tuition expenses. [Americans for Fair Taxation, “The Fair Tax Act of 2007 – HR 25: Plain English Summary,” [fairtax.org](http://fairtax.org), accessed 7/30/08]

### **... Including Food**

Fairtax.org an organization dedicated to the implementation of the Fair Tax specifically addresses the question “Why not just exempt food and medicine from the tax?” in the frequently asked questions section of their website.

According to the group, “Exempting items by category is neither fair nor simple.” [\[Fairtax.org FAQ\]](#)

### **... Including Medicine**

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### **... Including Clothing**

According to FairTax.org, new clothing would be taxed under the Fair Tax:

The FairTax is a single-rate, federal retail sales tax collected only once, at the final point of purchase of new goods and services for personal consumption. Used items are not taxed. Business-to-business purchases for the production of goods and services are not taxed. A rebate makes the effective rate progressive. [\[Fairtax.org FAQ\]](#)

### **... Including Gas**

Factcheck.org, an organization that checks the validity of claims made in political advertising and other media, confirmed that the Fair Tax would not only apply to gasoline, but would be placed on top of existing taxes.

According to Factcheck.org, the list would include:

- ✓ Purchases of new homes
- ✓ Rent
- ✓ Interest on credit cards, mortgages and car loans
- ✓ Doctor bills
- ✓ Utilities
- ✓ Gasoline
- ✓ Legal fees [\[Factcheck.org, “Unspinning the Fair Tax,” 5/31/07\]](#)

### **... Though Fair Tax Hits Families Paying Their Mortgage**

By supporting the Fair Tax, Tipton supports eliminating federal tax deductions for mortgage and property taxes, which would raise taxes for the middle-class.

### **Fair Tax Would Eliminate the Mortgage Interest Deduction**

According to Americans for Fair Taxation, an organization that supports a shift from our federal and state tax system to a 23percent national sales tax, the Fair Tax would make mortgage interest deductions “irrelevant.”

In a 2007 report the organization released on the impact of the Fair Tax on home ownership, Americans for Fair Taxation state that the new tax system would treat home purchases like any other retail good.

From the Americans for Fair Taxation report:

“Under the FairTax, the purchase of a home, just like the purchase of a car, food, or any good or service for personal use is seen for what it is: An item of consumption. Since the FairTax taxes all consumption without exception (except previously taxed goods and services), the FairTax imposes a 23 percent (tax-inclusive rate) tax on the purchase price of new homes.”

The report goes on to say that the FairTax “taxes new homes at 23 percent and repeals the income tax along with the [mortgage interest deduction].” [American for Fair Taxation, [“Promoting Home Ownership: How the Fair Tax’s Benefits for Homeowners Exceed the Mortgage Interest Deduction,”](#) 2007, accessed 9/17/08]

### **... Though Fair Tax Double Taxes Our Seniors**

Under the Fair Tax, seniors would be taxed twice.

### **Seniors Who Saved Would Face Double Tax Under Fair Tax System**

According to PolitiFact.com, seniors who had saved their money would face a “double tax” under the Fair Tax system:

“Then we checked with the SEIU. They acknowledged that the Fair Tax would be a replacement for the current tax system. But they made an interesting point -- that for seniors, the explicit target audience for the ad, there is something that you might call double taxation. For many years, seniors paid taxes on their income when they earned it. **Whatever they didn't spend, they saved, and in their retirement years, when they aren't earning fresh income that would be tax-free under the Fair Tax, those accumulated savings would be spent -- and thus taxed at 23 percent. Voila -- double taxation.**” [politifact.com, [10/20/10](#)]

### **Economic Experts Agreed the Fair Tax Would Double Tax Seniors**

In 2010, former Reagan and Bush administration official Bruce Bartlett and Urban Institute-Brookings Institution Tax Policy Center senior fellow Bob Williams both said that the Fair Tax would double tax seniors:

“Bartlett said the proposal ‘penalizes those who are older who have saved for their retirement during an era when saving was heavily penalized by the income tax. But rather than being able to spend their savings tax free, as they anticipated, they will now have to pay sales taxes on everything they buy, including health care. It will be hard for them to avoid seeing this as a double tax.’

Bob Williams, a senior fellow with the Urban Institute-Brookings Institution Tax Policy Center, agreed that the Fair Tax double-taxes savings.” [politifact.com, [10/20/10](#)]

### **Believed the Bush Tax Cuts Should Be Made Permanent**

In 2010, Tipton supported making the Bush era tax cuts permanent. He criticized Salazar for only wanting to extend the Bush tax cuts for a year.

“It may sound reasonable on the surface, but a one-year extension of the Bush tax cuts as advocated by Congressman Salazar would continue to create economic uncertainty for businesses that create jobs,” he said Thursday. “These tax cuts need to be made permanent or they are just delayed tax hikes.” [[Pueblo Chieftain](#), 9/17/10]

### **Sponsored Legislation to Cut the Corporate Tax Rate to 10 Percent**

In 2011, Tipton sponsored legislation that would cut the federal corporate income tax rate to 10 percent from 35 percent.

Tipton said the bill, which would also lower capital gains and dividends taxes to 10 percent, would attract business investment in the United States and spur job creation.

“In order to get this economy moving, we have to get Americans back to work,” he said in a phone interview. “We’ve been driving American jobs, American opportunities, off of our shores.” [[Durango Herald](#), 3/15/11; Thomas.loc.gov, HR 1074, accessed 8/08/11]]

### **Tipton Proposed Tax Breaks Instead of Stimulus Package**

In 2010, Tipton said that instead of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act he would have preferred to see tax breaks.

“What was an alternative we might have looked at? One thing I could see as a small-businessperson was our employees were being stressed. Their heating bills were going up. The cost of gasoline at that time was higher. What if we were to say we would suspend the payroll tax for a period of time “six months,

eight months" and put money back in the pockets of the taxpayers. Its money they earned." [Colorado Independent, 10/28/10]

### **Recovery Act Gave Tax Cut to 129 Million Households**

In 2009, the passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act resulted in a tax cut for 129 million households, totaling about 95 percent of all Americans. [Roanoke-Chowan News-Herald, 2/19/09]

### **Opposed the Elimination of Tax Exemptions to Balance State Budget**

In 2010, Tipton opposed the elimination of tax exemptions as a way to balance Colorado's budget.

In 2010, the Colorado House of Representatives approved eight bills eliminating tax exemptions on items ranging from online sales and farm equipment to restaurant napkins and plastic foam containers. The bills passed with no Republican support.

"At the worst possible time, we're making a choice to raise taxes on people who can't afford them anymore," said Tipton during a floor debate. "It's an overreach by government." [Washington Times, 2/03/10]

### **Waited Until After the Republican Primary to Oppose Anti-Tax Legislation**

In 2010, after the primary election, Tipton signed onto a letter asking GOP voters to oppose three controversial anti-tax ballot measures.

Spokespeople for Markey and Salazar said the two Republican candidates waited until after their nominations were cinched to take a public stand against ballot issues popular with many GOP voters.

"During the primary election, two-ways Tipton disappears, but now that it's the general election he is on board. Coloradans deserve a leader like John Salazar who can make tough choices from the beginning," Salazar's spokesperson, Tara Trujillo, said. [Fort Collins Coloradoan, 9/14/10]

### **Opposed Limiting Property Taxes**

In 2010, Tipton signed onto a letter encouraging Republican voters to oppose an amendment that would limit property taxes.

Amendment 60 proposed limiting how property taxes were raised and reversing tax laws, which increased taxes. Additionally it proposed cutting mill levies in half by 2020. [Colorado Property Taxes, Amendment 60 (2010); Ballotpedia, [accessed 4/20/11](#); Fort Collins Coloradoan, 9/14/10]

### **... Opposed Borrowing by State and Local Government**

In 2010, Tipton signed onto a letter encouraging Republican voters to oppose an amendment that would prohibit borrowing by state or local governments.

The proposed measure called for prohibiting borrowing by state or local government and required voter approval for future loans. [Colorado State and Local Debt Limitations, Amendment 61 (2010); ballotpedia, [accessed 4/20/11](#); [Fort Collins Coloradoan](#), 9/14/10]

### **... Opposed Ending Taxes on Vehicle Rentals and Leases**

In 2010, Tipton signed a letter that encouraged Republican voters to oppose a proposition that would do the following:

- Require all state and local taxes to cease on vehicle rentals and leases
- Specify that sales rebates are not taxable
- Require that all registration, license, and title changes combined total ten dollars yearly per vehicle
- Set the 2011 income tax rate at four and one-half percent and require later rates to decrease a specified amount yearly until reaching a specified amount under certain conditions
- Repeal the alternative minimum tax
- Specify that all added charges to telecommunication service customer accounts, with the exception of 911 fees at 2009 rates, shall be tax increases [Colorado Motor Vehicle, Income, and Telecom Taxes, Proposition 101 (2010); ballotpedia, [accessed 4/20/11](#); [Fort Collins Coloradoan](#), 9/14/10]

### **Voted Against Removing Tax Exemptions on Direct-Mail Advertising**

In 2009, Tipton voted against legislation that would remove tax exemptions on direct-mail advertising. The removal of the exemption was part of a package that was worth \$141 million. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/31/10](#)]

### **Voted Against Removing Tax Exemptions on Candy and Soda**

In 2009, Tipton voted against legislation that would remove tax exemptions on candy and soda. The removal of the exemption was part of a package that was worth \$141 million. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/31/10](#)]

### **Voted Against Removing Tax Exemptions on Fast-Food Bags and Napkins**

In 2009, Tipton voted against legislation that would remove tax exemptions on fast-food bags and napkins. The removal of the exemption was part of a package that was worth \$141 million. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/31/10](#)]

### **Voted Against Removing Tax Exemptions on Software Downloaded from the Internet**

In 2009, Tipton voted against legislation that would remove tax exemptions on items bought on the internet. The removal of the exemption was part of a package that was worth \$141 million. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/31/10](#)]

### **Voted Against Removing Tax Exemptions on Internet Sales**

In 2009, Tipton voted against legislation that would remove tax exemptions on internet sales. The removal of the exemption was part of a package that was worth \$141 million. [[Durango Herald](#), [1/31/10](#)]

### **Voted Against Removing Tax Exemptions on Hybrid Cars and Alternative Fuels**

In 2009, Tipton voted against legislation that would remove tax exemptions on hybrid cars and alternative fuels. The removal of the exemption was part of a package that was worth \$141 million. [[Durango Herald, 1/31/10](#)]

### **Voted Against Ending Tax Breaks for Big Business to Balance Colorado Budget**

In 2010, Tipton voted against legislation that would put on hold enterprise zone tax credits for big businesses. The bill put a three-year delay on tax credits over \$500,000 for companies in enterprise zones, which were set up to encourage investment in troubled areas. More than half the state is in an enterprise zone, including all the largest towns in Southwest Colorado. [[Durango Herald, 5/13/10](#)]

### **Supported Reagan and Clinton Policies of “Cutting Taxes”**

In December 2010, Tipton said that he believed that Reagan’s policies in the 1980s of cutting taxes lead to the recovery of the economy at that time.

“We got the American people moving. We cut taxes rather than raising taxes in tough economic times. And we started creating private-sector jobs. That flowed all the way through (the administration of Bill Clinton) because he cut taxes as well ultimately and empowered the American people. There's nothing better than the creativity and the ingenuity of the American people. We've led the way in the world in terms of innovations, in terms of productivity, and when that is unleashed we do remarkable things to not only benefit our people but the rest of the world.” [[Cortez Journal, 12/28/10](#)]

### **Supported Capital Gains Deduction Outlawed in Other State**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill getting rid of the deduction for capital gains earned on Colorado assets. Supporters said that the tax credit was similar to one outlawed in North Carolina in 1996.

The bill still allowed a \$100,000 deduction in capital gains earned in any state, a move aimed to help small businesses. [[Associated Press, 5/06/09; 2009 Digest of Bills](#)]

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 37-28. [[HB09-1366, House Journal page 1848, 5/06/09](#)]

### **Criticized Senate Bill That Provided Two Month Extension For Payroll Tax Cut And Unemployment Benefits**

In 2011, Tipton’s spokesman criticized the Senate bill that provided for a two-month extension of the payroll tax cut and unemployment benefits. Tipton’s spokesman said, “Two months doesn’t provide certainty for businesses and American families who have to budget, plan their taxes, invest and save. What the American people need is economic certainty, and the Senate proposal falls well short of providing it,” said Tipton spokesman Josh Green. The agreement continued a tax holiday for 160 million Americans, 2.5 million of them in Colorado, for two months. [Blog, [Denver Post, 12/19/11](#)]

### **Said, “We’ve got a tax code, which nobody can figure out”**

In 2012, Tipton said his state of the union is “in flux” and uncertainty was preventing businesses from expanding. “Unemployment is continuing to be at record levels since the Great Depression,” Tipton said. “We’ve got a tax code, which nobody can figure out, which is driving businesses not to invest and be able to create jobs, to hold onto that money. So we’ve got a lot of challenges, not to mention the debt that we’re facing right now.” [The Note, ABC News, [1/24/12](#)]

### **Faced Protestors Due to Sponsorship of Bill to Reduce Corporate Taxes**

In 2012, Tipton’s office faced “occupy” protestors due to his sponsorship for a bill that would cut corporate taxes from 35 to 10 percent. “Concerned grandparents and 20-somethings alike gathered outside the Alpine Bank Building, 225 N. Fifth St., where Tipton’s office is located, in solidarity with a march in Washington, D.C., to protest corporate greed and the growing gap between rich and poor in the U.S.” Tipton’s constituent Jennifer Alton said, “I’m extremely concerned about the disparity of wealth in our country and I want to find out where Tipton stands on the issues affecting everyday people.”

In March 2011, Tipton introduced legislation to “amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the corporate income tax rate to 10 percent and to lower the rate of tax on capital gains and dividends to 10 percent.” [Grand Junction Free Press, [1/20/12](#); H.R.1074, introduced 3/14/11]

### **Pace Challenged Tipton to Talk to Republican Leadership About Extending Payroll Tax Cut**

In 2011, Tipton’s opponent Sal Pace attacked him and other national Republicans for quietly working to end the pay roll tax cut. Pace said, “I can’t understand their logic and rationale at all. How can they say they support working families and not support extending this tax cut?” Pace alleged that Republicans will “fight tooth and nail” to preserve tax breaks for wealthy individuals and corporations and is angered they will not support a tax break for working families. Pace challenged Tipton to talk to Boehner about the need to extend the payroll tax cut for another year. [Colorado Independent, [8/23/11](#)]

### **Didn’t want to Tax High Income Earners to Extend Payroll Tax Cuts**

In 2011, Tipton didn’t want to raise taxes on people with higher incomes to pay for the payroll tax cut extension. [Denver Post, [12/2/11](#)]

### **Supported Extending Payroll Tax Cut, Didn’t Want to Fund by Raising Taxes on Wealthy**

In 2011, Tipton said he supported extending the payroll tax cut – but he didn’t want to fund the cut by raising taxes on wealthier taxpayers. Tipton expressed concern over extending the payroll tax cut because it reduced funding to Social Security. “I don’t challenge the usefulness of the tax deduction,” Tipton said. “I think you’ll see people on both sides of the aisle working to find the funding mechanism to extend that. I’m always in favor of leaving more money in the pockets of taxpayers.” Tipton said raising taxes on wealthier taxpayers wasn’t an answer. ‘I think it was President Bill Clinton who said, ‘Now isn’t the time to raise taxes on anyone’ and I agree with that,’ Tipton said. [Chieftain, [12/2/11](#)]

### **Didn’t want to Raise Taxes on Higher Incomes to Pay for Payroll Tax Cuts**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton didn't want to raise taxes on higher incomes to pay for the payroll tax cuts. [Denver Post, 12/2/11]

### **Pace Challenged Tipton to Talk to Republican Leadership About Extending Payroll Tax Cut**

In 2011, Tipton's opponent Sal Pace attacked him and other national Republicans for quietly working to end the pay roll tax cut. Pace said, "I can't understand their logic and rationale at all. How can they say they support working families and not support extending this tax cut?" Pace alleged that Republicans will "fight tooth and nail" to preserve tax breaks for wealthy individuals and corporations and is angered they will not support a tax break for working families. Pace challenged Tipton to talk to Boehner about the need to extend the payroll tax cut for another year. [[Colorado Independent, 8/23/11](#)]

### **Headline: Republicans want to raise taxes; Democrats don't**

In 2011, Tipton's opponent Sal Pace held a press conference attacking him for failing to call on speaker Boehner extend a tax cut for businesses "2.5 million Coloradans saved \$1.7 billion in income taxes due to President Obama's payroll tax holiday, and now all of a sudden Washington Republicans don't know whether or not to support this measure again for 2012." said Representative Pace. "I hope that Scott Tipton calls on Speaker Boehner when he's here... to extend this important tax cut for the middle class." Tipton did not return a call seeking comment. [[Colorado Independent, 8/29/11](#)]

### **Spokesman Said Tipton Believed No One Was Exempt from Bearing Share of Tax Load Including Oil and Gas**

In 2011, Tipton faced a demonstration from a non-partisan advocacy group opposing the federal tax breaks and deductions for the oil industry. Jill Lancelot, a co-founder of the group said, "These oil and gas companies are enjoying record profits and yet taxpayers are expected to keep providing them with \$15 billion in subsidies every year." Josh Green, Tipton's spokesman, issued a statement Friday afternoon: "Congressman Tipton has said all along that during this budget crisis, nobody, including oil and gas companies, will be exempt from bearing a share of the load. The congressman continues to work toward a solution that makes our nation energy independent, reduces the deficit, and creates jobs — three goals that are not mutually exclusive." [[Pueblo Chieftain, 5/21/11](#)]

### **Opposed President's 2012 Budget Proposal Saying it would Raise Taxes**

In 2011, after President Obama gave a speech laying out his plan for deficit plan Tipton said "With double-digit unemployment across our district, I have serious reservations with the president's plan to raise taxes as a way to shrink the deficit," He went on to say "We must create jobs and grow our revenue base, rather than stunt it with tax increases on job creators." [[Pueblo Chieftain, 4/14/11](#)]

### **Said Legislation to Reduce Corporate, Capital Gains and Dividend Tax Would Create Jobs**

In an interview on the G. Gordon Liddy Radio Show Tipton his legislation to reduce corporate tax rates, capital gains and dividend tax rate down to a flat 10% was his idea for job creation. "In our 10-10-10 legislation, to be able to reduce corporate tax rates, capital gains and dividend tax rate down to a flat 10% is a jobs creator. We have the empirical evidence of this. We have empowered the American people in business with more of their money. They have actually stepped out, innovated and created jobs and got

the economy moving and that's exactly what we need to do now. At the corporate level, we currently have the highest tax rate in the entire world and we need to make American business competitive. We have been driving for decades now; American jobs, American businesses, American capital off of our shores and it is about time that we made our businesses competitive, our businesses profitable and started putting Americans back to work. This legislation will achieve that. [G. Gordon Liddy radio show, 13:00, [3/23/11](#)]

### **Introduced Legislation to Reduce Corporate Income and Capital Gains Taxes**

In March 2011, Tipton sponsored a bill to "amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the corporate income tax rate to 10 percent and to lower the rate of tax on capital gains and dividends to 10 percent." The bills two goals were to reduce the tax rate to 10 percent and reduce the capital gains rate for individuals and corporations to 10 percent. [H.R.934, [3/14/11](#)]

## **Voted Against Repealing the Bush Tax Cuts**

In 2011, Tipton voted against legislation which eliminated the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts for those making more than \$250,000 a year.

The legislation allowed the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts to expire and maintained funding for low-income heating assistance and Community Development Block Grants and increased funding for food stamps and infrastructure. [CQ Floor Votes, [4/15/11](#); [The Hill](#), 4/13/11]

The bill failed 166-259. [H Con Res 34, [Vote #276](#), 4/15/11]

## **Voted Against Penalizing Contractors Delinquent on Federal Taxes**

In 2011, Tipton voted against penalizing contractors who were delinquent on federal taxes.

The motion would have struck the language from the underlying bill and would have repealed the three percent withholding requirement for contractors on certain payments by government entities, except those who were delinquent on their federal taxes. [CQ Floor Votes, 10/27/11]

The bill failed 183-235. [HR 674, [Vote #814](#), 10/27/11]

## **Voted Against 3.6 Percent Surtax on Incomes over \$1 Million**

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion which would have imposed a 3.6 percent surtax on incomes over \$1 million.

The motion would have imposed a 3.6 percent surtax on incomes over \$1 million, which would be indexed to inflation beginning in 2012. [CQ Floor Vote, 12/13/11]

The motion failed 183-244. [HR 3630, [Vote #922](#), 12/13/11]

## **Voted Against Additional 1.1 Percent Payroll Tax Cut for Working Families**

In 2011, Tipton voted against an additional 1.1 percent payroll tax cut for working families.

The motion would have increased the employee payroll tax cut to 3.1 percent for 2012 from 2.0 percent. According to an analysis by the U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of Tax Policy, expanding the tax cut to 3.1 percent would have been a "tax cut of about \$1,550 for the typical American working family in 2012" when compared to no extension of the payroll tax cut. [HR 3630, [Vote #922](#), 12/13/11; Congressional Record, H8820, 12/13/11; Office of Tax Policy – Treasury Department, [11/30/11](#); CQ House Action Report, HR 3630, 12/12/11]

The motion failed 183-244. [HR 3630, [Vote #922](#), 12/13/11]

## **Voted Against Considering Payroll Tax Cut Extension for Working Americans 6 Times**

In 2011, Tipton voted against the consideration of a payroll tax cut extension for working Americans 6 times.

- ✓ Tipton voted to order the previous question, preventing Democrats from considering the Payroll Tax Holiday Extension Act of 2011, which extended middle class tax relief for 2012. [Congressional Record, H7955-1957, 11/30/11]

The previous question passed 239-184. [H Res 477, [Vote #870](#), 11/30/11]

- ✓ Tipton voted to order the previous question, preventing Democrats from considering the Payroll Tax Holiday Extension Act of 2011, which extended middle class tax relief for 2012, and the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2011, which extended unemployment benefits. [Congressional Record, H8151-8152, 12/06/11]

The previous question passed 236-184. [H Res 479, [Vote #889](#), 12/06/11]

- ✓ Tipton voted to order the previous question, preventing Democrats from considering the Payroll Tax Holiday Extension Act of 2011, which extended middle class tax relief for 2012, and the Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2011, which extended unemployment benefits. [Congressional Record, H8269-8270, 12/08/11]

The previous question passed 241-173. [H Res 487, [Vote #902](#), 12/08/11]

- ✓ Tipton voted to order the previous question, preventing Democrats from considering an amendment in the nature of a substitute, which extended middle class tax relief, unemployment benefits, and the Medicare reimbursement doctor fix. [Congressional Record, H8756, 12/13/11]

The previous question passed 236-182. [H Res 491, [Vote #918](#), 12/13/11]

- ✓ Tipton voted to order the previous question, preventing Democrats from considering the Middle Class Fairness and Putting America Back to Work Act of 2011, which extended middle class tax relief, unemployment benefits, and the Medicare reimbursement doctor fix. [Congressional Record, H8919, 12/14/11]

The previous question passed 235-173. [H Res 493, [Vote #925](#), 12/14/11]

- ✓ Tipton voted to order the previous question, preventing Democrats from considering a bill passed by the Senate, which extended middle class tax relief, unemployment benefits, and the Medicare reimbursement doctor fix for two months. [Congressional Record, H9956-9958, 12/20/11]

The previous question passed 233-187. [H Res 502, [Vote #944](#), 12/20/11]

## Transportation Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Opposed funding for the Roaring Fork Transit Authority... after encouraging officials not worry about the funding*

**Scott Tipton opposed funding for the Roaring Fork Transit Authority's VelociRFTA grant program because the grant included a \$15,000 provision which included wireless internet on buses. The program was supported in the past by Republican Congressman Scott McInnis and Republican Senator Wayne Wallard. The grant totaled \$25 million dollars.**

#### **November 2010: Told People Not to “Panic” on Roaring Fork Transit Authority Grant**

In 2010, Tipton's spokesperson told officials to not “panic” regarding a \$24 million grant sought for the Roaring Fork Transit Authority, a grant that outgoing Representative John Salazar supported.

“Congressman Tipton was elected with an understanding there needs to be a cut in federal spending,” said Mike Hesse, who Tipton appointed earlier this month to head his staff. “On the other hand, we have to use common sense on these things,” said Tipton’s Chief of Staff.

Around that same time, RFTA's CEO told the Glenwood Springs paper the loss of which would be “devastating.” [[Aspen Times, 11/16/10](#)]

#### **December 2010: Called Bus Rapid Transit Plan “Admirable”**

In December 2010, Tipton called the RFTA “bus rapid transit” plan “admirable.”

According to the [Aspen Daily News](#), the plan includes new buses, more stations and updated technology. A presentation on the plan by RFTA CEO Dan Blankenship included program highlights, such as installing wireless Internet capability on the valley’s commuter buses. [[Aspen Daily News, 12/18/10](#)]

#### **RFTA Program Supported By Wallard, McInnis**

In 2010, RFTA CEO Blankenship also noted when talking with Tipton about RFTA grant plans that the bus rapid transit program was supported by Republican supporters such as former Senator Wayne Allard and Congressman Scott McInnis. [[Aspen Daily News, 12/18/10](#)]

#### **May 2011: Withheld Support for \$25 Million Roaring Fork Grant because of \$15,000**

In May 2011, Tipton withheld his support for the \$25 million Roaring Fork Grant on account of \$15,000 dollars that he wanted removed from the grant. Senators Mark Udall and Michael Bennet along with Representative Jared Polis, all Democrats, signed the letter. Tipton, a Republican, declined because he had two primary problems with the letter, said his spokesperson, Josh Green.

#### **Opposed Grant because of Internet on Buses**

In May 2011, Tipton opposed a \$25 million dollar federal grant to the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority because the grant included wireless internet connection on RFTA's new buses.[\[Post Independent, 5/18/11\]](#)

### **Opposed Grant because Wording Was Too “Rigid”**

In May 2011, Tipton opposed a \$25 million dollar federal grant to the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority because the letter “called for a full appropriation of federal funds,” he said. [\[Post Independent, 5/18/11\]](#)

According to Tipton’s spokesperson, wording of the letter was too “rigid” and did not reserve the right to review the project and make possible changes to cut expenses, in Tipton’s view. [\[Post Independent, 5/18/11\]](#)

### **...But Said Creating and Maintaining Jobs “Revolve Around Transportation”**

In 2008, when asked what issue Tipton would find himself most involved, Tipton answered Transportation.

“I think those lifelines which are able to help create jobs and to be able to help maintain jobs and to be able to help our families certainly revolve around transportation. When I look at the roads 50, 160, 145; all of the laterals that are running through our community’s here- they are in need of repair. We need to get to work on that. It’s something that I am going to be dedicated to trying to seek some solutions too; something we need to be very cognizant of that I mentioned earlier.”  
[\[Montrose Daily Press House District 58 Debate, accessed 7/11/11\]](#)

### **Opposed Creating Rainy Day Fund, Guaranteed Transportation Funding**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that repealed the budget’s growth limit, but created a rainy day fund and guaranteed transportation funding. The bill also eliminated the “ratchet” effect, caused by a growth limit on budgets, which hindered recovery from a recession once the economy improved.

Representative Cory Gardner said that the bill would undoubtedly grow the size of government and was “unconstitutional [and] illegal” because he believed it violated TABOR.

Republican bill sponsor Representative Don Marostica said that the bill would neither raise taxes nor increase spending. Instead, he said, it would allow more control over budgeting during hard economic times.

Instead of limiting the budget to six percent growth, it linked the budget to five percent of the state’s personal income growth. [\[Colorado Statesman, 6/05/09\]](#)

The bill passed the House, 35-29. [\[SB09-228, House Journal page 1524, 4/28/09\]](#)

### **Despite Opposition from Tipton, the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority Received Federal Money**

In 2011, despite Tipton's opposition to the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority \$46 million bus system expansion, the project obtained federal funding. Tipton declined to sign a letter that urged the Federal Transit Administration to award a \$25 million grant to the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority for its expansion project. Tipton's office said at the time that the congressman supported access to mass transit and the general concept of the expansion, but he was against the release of \$25 million without the ability of Congress to examine the grant and possibly cut items. For example, Tipton was opposed to adding wireless Internet capability to the buses, his spokesman said. That was a \$15,000 item, of which 60 percent or about \$9,000 was covered by the federal government in the cost-sharing arrangement. [Post Independent, [7/15/11](#)]

### **Editorial: Tipton Supported the Essential Air Service Program**

In 2011, the Pueblo Chieftain reported that a July bill in the House funded the Essential Air Service (EAS) program in Pueblo, Alamosa and Cortez. Tipton said he supported EAS and his office said he "remains committed to supporting the airports that service the 3rd Congressional District." A Pueblo Chieftain editorial read "Air service is important in this day and age. Southern Coloradans should appreciate Rep. Tipton for backing this federal program." [Editorial, Pueblo Chieftain, [7/22/11](#)]

### **Voted to Eliminate the Essential Air Service**

Scott Tipton voted for the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011 which would phase out Essential Air service and terminate the program by October 1, 2013 in all states except Alaska and Hawaii [HR 658, [Vote #220](#), 4/01/11; USA Today, [3/30/11](#)]

### **November 2010: Told People Not to “Panic” on Roaring Fork Transit Authority Grant**

In 2010, Tipton's spokesman told officials not "panic" regarding a \$24 million grant sought for the Roaring Fork Transit Authority, a grant that outgoing Rep. John Salazar supported.

"Congressman Tipton was elected with an understanding there needs to be a cut in federal spending," said Mike Hesse, who Tipton appointed earlier this month to head his staff. "On the other hand, we have to use common sense on these things," said Tipton's Chief of Staff.

Around that same time, RFTA's CEO told the Glenwood Springs paper the loss of which would be "devastating." [Aspen Times, [11/16/10](#)]

### **Tipton Claimed to Be Supportive of Access to Public Transportation, But Held Up Funding for Project Over Internet**

In 2011, Tipton withheld support for a \$25 million federal grant to expand the Roaring Fork Transportation Authority's (RFTA) service because he opposed \$15,000 for Wi Fi. Tipton had two problems with federal funding for the project. His first problem was the inclusion of a wireless Internet connection that RFTA was proposing on its new buses. "The other problem was [the letter] called for a full appropriation of federal funds," he said. The wording of the letter was too "rigid" and didn't reserve the right to review the project and make possible changes to cut expenses, in Tipton's view. "Congressman Tipton is very supportive of making sure there is access to public transportation,"

Green said. However, in these tough economic times there were “extra things we just can’t get behind completely,” he said. [[Post Independent, 5/18/11](#)]

### **Withheld Support for \$25 Million Grant Because of \$9,000 Wireless Internet on Buses**

In 2011, Tipton withheld support for a \$25 million federal grant to expand bus service in the Roaring Fork Valley, in part because the plan called for wireless internet service on the bus. Tipton’s spokesman said the federal share of the wireless was \$9,000. [[Associated Press, 5/18/11](#)]

### **Editorial: Tipton’s Opposition to \$15,000 Internet on Bus Service was Misguided**

In 2011, the [Aspen Times](#) criticized Tipton for failing to support the wireless Internet service on the Roaring Fork Transportation Authorities rapid-transit plan. The paper wrote that “he’s sticking it to Roaring Fork Transportation Authority as well.” Tipton said the RFTA was spending unnecessary funds on a wireless Internet service that would have cost \$15,000.

Josh Green, told The Aspen Times that the congressman “is very supporting of making sure there is access to public transportation,” but noted that there were “extra things we can’t get behind completely.” The [Aspen Times](#) reported, “First, Wi-Fi service on RFTA buses would serve as an excellent way to entice commuters to take public transportation rather than their own personal vehicles...he’s picking the wrong battle. RFTA has been working for years with the FTA to pare down its grant application with only necessary components to make this a worthwhile project. The \$15,000 cost for Wi-Fi is hardly a lavish expense, and we contend that wireless Internet is a vital function for a modern-day bus service.” [Editorial, [Aspen Times, 5/20/11](#)]

### **December 2010: Called Bus Rapid Transit Plan “Admirable”**

In December 2010, Tipton called the RFTA “bus rapid transit” plan “admirable.”

According to the [Aspen Daily News](#), the plan includes new buses, more stations and updated technology. A presentation on the plan by RFTA CEO Dan Blankenship included program highlights, such as installing wireless Internet capability on the valley’s commuter buses. [[Aspen Daily News, 12/18/10](#)]

### **RFTA Program Supported By Wallard, McInnis**

In December 2010, RFTA CEO Blankenship also noted when talking with Tipton about RFTA grant plans that the bus rapid transit program was supported by Republican supporters such as former Sen. Wayne Allard and Rep. Scott McInnis. [[Aspen Daily News, 12/18/10](#)]

### **It was Not Known Whether Tipton’s Opposition to Parts of a \$25 Million Grant for Bus System Contributed to Funding Delay**

In 2011, Roaring Fork Transportation Authority (RFTA) officials feared the delay in approval for a \$25 million grant to expand its bus system could cause them to miss the summer construction season. It was “unknown if U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton’s lack of support for the awarding of the grant has affected the FTA’s decision.”

According to the [Post Independent](#), the RFTA's grant was recommended for approval by the FTA in the fiscal year 2011 budget and it was included in President Obama's proposed budget. Tipton was outspoken in his opposition to broadband internet on the buses, however RFTA refused to back down from the plan. [[Post Independent, 6/10/11](#)]

### **Was Supportive of Federal Grant to Expand the Bus System in Roaring Fork Valley**

In 2011, Tipton was reportedly supportive of a \$24 million federal grant to expand the bus system in Roaring Fork Valley. Pitkin County Commissioner George Newman said he met with Colorado representatives including Tipton and said "They were all supportive of our program." [[Post Independent, 3/21/11](#)]

## Voted to Cut Funding for 13 Airports that Receive Essential Air Service Funds

In 2011, Tipton voted to cut funding for 13 airports that were either receiving subsidies of more than \$1,000 dollars per passenger or were closer than 90 miles to a major hub airport.

The Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization allowed the FAA to continue operating but cut funding for 13 rural airports, some of which were closer than 90 miles to the nearest major hub airport and which received subsidies of more than \$1,000 per passenger. Cutting these subsidies would have saved \$16.5 million. [[New York Times](#), 7/23/11]

According to the [Associated Press](#): “The 13 affected cities are Athens, Ga.; Morgantown, W.Va.; Glendive, Mont.; Alamogordo, N.M.; Ely, Nev.; Jamestown, N.Y.; Bradford, Pa.; Hagerstown, Md.; Jonesboro, Ark.; Johnstown, Pa.; Franklin/Oil City, Pa.; Lancaster, Pa., and Jackson, Tenn.” [[Associated Press](#), [7/20/11](#)]

The bill passed 243-177. [HR 2553, [Vote #611](#), 7/20/11]

## Voted against Prohibiting Airlines from Charging Baggage Fees to Military Personnel on Orders

In 2011, Tipton voted against a motion to recommit which prohibited airlines from charging baggage fees to military personnel who are on orders.

The motion prohibited airlines from charging baggage fees for four or fewer bags for members of the military travelling on orders or being deployed or returning from overseas operations.

The motion failed 187-233. [HR 2553, [Vote #610](#), 7/20/11]

## Water Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Seen as a strong supporter of water rights in district*
- ✓ *Voted against keeping water rights commissioners on payrolls because he did not read the legislation before it was up for a vote*

**Scott Tipton has a strong record of being a supporter for water rights in Western Colorado. However, as a state legislator, Tipton did vote against a bill that would keep Water Commissioners on the state payrolls. Tipton said that he voted against the bill because he did not have time to get the full information on what the bill did.**

## Voted Against Keeping Water Commissioners on Payrolls

In January 2010, Tipton voted against House Bills 1060, legislation that would prevent cuts to state water engineers by moving funds from state gas and oil taxes to the state engineer's office.

According to The Durango Herald, by moving the money, the engineer's office would have been able to restore the equivalent of 5.3 jobs, including some water commissioners. The commissioners, more commonly known as ditch riders, police the use of water in the field and make sure senior water-rights owners get their water.

In defending his vote against the legislation, Tipton said that he was unhappy that state engineers didn't send anyone to testify before the committee on which he served.

"I'm supportive of that (House Bill 1060), but I'm not going to vote for something I'm not given full information on," Tipton said. [Durango Herald, 1/27/10]

### **Pro-Water Development Candidate**

In 2005, Congressional Quarterly reported that Tipton was taking the position of being a pro-Water development candidate, an issue that hurt Walcher, the 2004 Republican candidate. [Congressional Quarterly, 8/12/05]

### **Water Rights on the Western Slope Was 58<sup>th</sup> District's Number One Issue**

In October 2008, during an interview with The Cortez Journal, Tipton pointed to water rights and ownership for the Western Slope as the number one issue for the Colorado's 58<sup>th</sup> district.

"No candidate for the 58th, or the West Slope, should ever forget that if we don't protect our water we'll have nothing. From East Slope water grabs to the threat of lower basin calls, I will be vigilant in protecting our water. In addition to protecting our water, we need to be exploring opportunities to preserve and store more water." [Cortez Journal, 10/18/08]

### **Sponsored Legislation to Make Water Rights Claims Easier**

In 2009, Tipton sponsored House Bill 1185, which allowed people filing paperwork for water rights to e-mail the application instead of mailing four paper copies to state regulators. [Coyote Gulch, 6/28/09]

### **Supported Rural Colorado Water Access and Rights**

In 2010, Tipton supported the rights of the rural Coloradans to have access to water.

"Those of us in rural Colorado need to protect our water," Tipton said. "I will stand up to keep water in the 3rd Congressional District."

Tipton also expressed a desire to work with other states in the Colorado River Compact to build new storage in Colorado at the headwaters of the river. [Coyote Gulch, 8/28/10]

### **Supported Legislation Sponsored by Pace to Keep Water on the Western Slope**

In February 2010, Tipton supported legislation sponsored by Sal Pace that would have required cities that want to import water from far away to negotiate with local water districts to minimize the impacts. [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/6/10]

### **Pursuing Funds for Water Issues without Earmarks**

In February 2011, Tipton, in a meeting with a group of 16 state legislators at the Colorado Statehouse, said that he was working at attain funding for the Jackson Gulch Reservoir as well as the Arkansas Valley Water Project. [[Cortez Journal](#), 2/03/11]

### **Sued for Water Rights in Order to Stock His Pond**

In 1996, Scott Tipton applied for water rights near Tipton Ditch to build a stock pond. Water rights for that pond were approved conditionally.

In 2004, Tipton applied for permanent water rights near Tipton Ditch where a stock pond was built. In 2004, Tipton was sued by the Dolores Water Conservancy District. The Dolores Water Conservancy District claimed that they owned water rights in the area and that their rights would be damaged if proper protections were not put in place. [District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 96CW71, District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 03CW93, accessed 5/27/11]

### **Case Was Dismissed Over Failure to Pay Publication Costs**

In December 2004, Tipton's application for permanent water rights near the Tipton Ditch for building a stock pond was dismissed. According to court records, Tipton was ordered to pay \$35.81 by September 17, 2004. His failure to pay the court costs resulted in his case being dismissed by Water Judge Gregory Lyman. [District Court, Water Division 7, Case Number 03CW93, accessed 5/27/11]

### **Advocated for Powderhorn Mountain Resort to Sue Federal Government Over Water Rights**

In 2011, Tipton said the U.S. Forest Service forced Powderhorn Mountain Resort to surrender water rights so the ski area could open in two weeks. He wrote Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell requesting the agency honor a water agreement reached between Powderhorn, other ski areas and the George W. Bush administration. [Associated Press, [11/30/11](#)]

### **Accused Forest Service of “Unlawfully Taking” Property Through Water Rights Clause**

In 2011, it was reported that Tipton sent a letter to the Agriculture Secretary accusing the Forest Service of “unlawfully taking” property from private entities. Colorado lawmakers were worried that a new clause in the permitting process would transfer water rights — potentially worth tens of millions of dollars — after 2004 from joint ownership between ski resorts and the federal government to just the federal government. Tipton also sent a letter to Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell that called the new water directive “not even handed” and he claimed it could cause economic harm to Powderhorn and job losses in the ski industry. [[Real Aspen](#), [12/25/11](#)]

### **Supported Arkansas Valley Conduit Project**

A February 2011 a Pueblo Chieftain editorial said Tipton championed the ongoing Arkansas Valley Conduit project to carry clean water towns in the Lower Arkansas Valley. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

### **Opposed Legislation Allowing Bureau Of Reclamation To Transfer Water To Northern Colorado**

A February 2011 a Pueblo Chieftain editorial said Tipton would not support legislation to allow the Bureau of Reclamation to use Fry-Ark facilities to transfer water out of this river basin to northern Colorado. [Editorial, [Pueblo Chieftain](#), 2/7/11]

## Worker's Rights Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Opposed unemployment benefits for workers locked out by strike*
- ✓ *Opposed expanding unemployment benefits*

**Scott Tipton opposed unemployment benefits for workers who were locked out of work because of going on strike. Additionally, he opposed legislation that would expand unemployment benefits for those individuals unable to find employment.**

#### **Opposed Unemployment Benefits for Workers Locked Out by Strike**

In 2009, Tipton voted against a bill that would have provided unemployment benefits to workers locked out by employers during labor disputes.

Before the bill, only strikes initiated by employers would have provided unemployment benefits, not union-led strikes. The bill would have made all locked-out workers eligible. [[Associated Press](#), 6/29/09; [Colorado Unemployment Law Letter](#), June 2009]

Final passage to adhere to the House's position passed, 37-26. The governor ultimately vetoed the bill. [SB09-215, House Journal page 888, 3/25/09]

#### **Opposed Similar Bill**

Tipton also voted against a bill allowing an employee subject to an employer-initiated lockout to receive unemployment benefits under certain circumstances.

The bill passed with Senate amendments, 36-29. That bill was also vetoed by the governor. [HB09-1170, House Journal page 1820, 5/05/09]

#### **Opposed Expanded Unemployment Insurance, Using Recovery Funds**

In 2009, Tipton voted against expanding the availability of unemployment insurance compensation benefits. The bill also enabled the state to receive and expend funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Eligibility for benefits was expanded to include accompanying a spouse whose employment location changed; to care for an ill or disabled family member; or for domestic abuse purposes. [SB09-247 fiscal note, Legislative Council Staff, 6/08/09; 2009 Digest of Bills]

The bill passed, 43-22. [SB09-247, House Journal page 1788, 5/05/09]

## **Voted Against Employee Paycheck Protections**

In 2009, Tipton voted against protections for an employee's paycheck by penalizing an employer \$50 per day if two or more times in 24 months, an employee's paycheck is not honored by the employer's bank.

The employer would be liable for actual damages including late fees, cause by such nonpayment.

Tipton voted against final passage of the bill, which passed as amended by conference report, 37-27. [HB09-1108, House Journal page 978, 4/01/09]

## **Voted to Protect Companies Retaliating Against Workers Trying to Unionize**

In 2011, Tipton voted to prevent the National Labor Relations Board from "ordering any employer to close, relocate or transfer employment under any circumstances."

The bill would have prohibited the National Labor Relations Board from taking action against companies that it felt were retaliating against workers for forming a union, striking, or exercising any of their other federally protected rights. These actions include "ordering a company to reinstate production or make certain investments, at a given location" or "blocking a firm's decision to relocate" and would apply to all decisions that had not been finalized prior to the passage of the legislation. [[New York Times](#), 9/15/11; CQ Floor Votes, 9/15/11]

The bill passed 238-186. [HR 2587, [Vote #711](#), 9/15/11]

### **...And to Allow Them to Outsource American Jobs**

Tipton even voted against a motion which would have ensured that the National Labor Relations Board retained the "authority to order a company to maintain or restore jobs that have been or will be outsourced to a foreign country in violation of the National Labor Relations Act." [CQ Floor Votes, 9/15/11]

The motion failed 189-235. [HR 2587, [Vote #710](#), 9/15/11]

## **Voted to Delay, Make Union Formation More Difficult**

In 2011, Tipton voted to institute mandatory waiting periods into the voting process for workers to form a union.

The bill would delay votes on forming a union until at least 35 days after a successful pre-election hearing, which would happen at least 14 days after certifying a unionization petition. [Associated Press Financial Wire, 11/30/11; CQ Floor Votes, 11/30/11]

The bill passed 235-188. [HR 3094, [Vote #869](#), 11/30/11]

Tipton even voted against a motion that required unionization elections to happen within the same period as required to elect a new CEO, under the laws of the individual state. The motion also prohibited

mandatory attendance meetings campaigning for or against unionization. [Congressional Record, H7984, 11/30/11; CQ Floor Votes, 11/30/11]

The motion failed 185-239. [HR 3094, [Vote #868](#) 11/30/11]

### **Voted to Reduce the Maximum Unemployment Benefits from 99 Weeks to 59 Weeks**

In 2011, Tipton voted to reduce the maximum duration of unemployment benefits from 99 weeks to 59 weeks.

The bill which covered a number of different subjects limited the maximum duration of unemployment benefits from 99 weeks to 59 weeks. [CQ Floor Vote, 12/13/11]

The bill passed 234-193. [HR 3630, [Vote #923](#), 12/13/11]

### **Voted against protecting TRICARE Subcontractor Employees under Labor Protection Laws**

In 2011, Tipton voted against protecting TRICARE subcontractors and defense contractor employees under labor protection laws.

The motion would have struck a provision in the conference report that exempted TRICARE network providers from labor protection laws. According to a press release from the author of the motion, “By striking this section, the motion would guarantee that employees of TRICARE subcontractors and other defense contractors are afforded labor protections for civil rights, disabilities, and veterans.” [CQ Floor Votes, 12/14/11; Rep. Sanford Bishop Press Release, 12/14/11]

The motion failed 183-234. [HR 1540, [Vote #931](#), 12/14/11]

## **...Appendix I – Personal Finance**

### **Significant Findings**

- ✓ *Owned stock in banks bailed out by the U.S. Treasury*
- ✓ *Owned stock in Big Oil Companies*
- ✓ *Owned stock in pharmaceutical company*
- ✓ *Discrepancy existed about earned income from Tipton Limited*

**Scott Tipton owned stock in multiple companies that were bailed out by the U.S. Treasury. He also had thousands invested in oil companies and pharmaceutical companies. Discrepancies exist about how much he actually made in 2010 from**

**working at Tipton Limited. In 2010, Tipton's net worth was an estimated \$2,912,072 to \$10,018,000.**

## **Earned Income**

The following outlines Tipton's earned income covering 2008, 2009, and 2010.

### **Net Worth in 2009**

In 2009, Tipton's net worth was \$4,063,066- \$7,449,000. [2009 Financial Disclosure]

### **Net Worth in 2010**

In 2010, Tipton's net worth was \$2,912,072-\$10,018,000. [2010 Financial Disclosure]

### **Received Income from Tipton Limited**

The following outlines Tipton's income from Tipton Limited.

#### **2010: Received \$44,000 in Earned Income from Tipton Limited**

In 2010, Scott Tipton's Form B financial disclosure showed Tipton receiving \$34,000 in earned income from Tipton Limited. Scott Tipton's Form B financial disclosure covered January 2010 to June 2010. The previous year Tipton earned \$14,000 in income from Tipton Limited. [Tipton 2010 Personal Financial Disclosure, Form B]

#### **... Different Income Was Indicated on a Different Financial Disclosure Covering 2010**

In 2010, Scott Tipton's Form A financial disclosure showed Tipton receiving \$26,100 in earned income from Tipton Limited. This filing period covered January 2010-December 2010. The previous year Tipton earned \$14,000 in income from Tipton Limited. [Tipton 2010 Personal Financial Disclosure, Form A]

*NOTE: The reason for the discrepancy in Form A and Form B 2010 reports is unclear. Tipton's Form B disclosure was filed in June 2010, and only included his income from that year to date. By contrast, Tipton's Form A disclosure covered the entire 2010 year yet showed Tipton receiving \$7,900 less in income.*

#### **2009: Received \$14,000 in Earned Income from Tipton Limited**

In 2009, Scott Tipton received \$14,000 in earned income from Tipton Limited. [Tipton 2009 Personal Financial Disclosure]

#### **2008: Received \$54,000 in Earned Income from Tipton Limited**

In 2008, Scott Tipton received 54,000 in earned income from Tipton Limited. [Tipton 2009 Personal Financial Disclosure]

### **Received Income from Colorado State Legislature**

The following outlines Tipton's income from his tenure as a Colorado State Legislator.

#### **2010: Received \$25,000 as Colorado State Legislature**

In 2010, Scott Tipton received \$25,000 in earned income as a member of the Colorado House of Representatives. [Tipton 2010 Personal Financial Disclosure, Form B]

#### **2009: Received \$25,000 as Colorado State Legislature**

In 2009, Scott Tipton received \$25,000 in earned income as a member of the Colorado House of Representatives. [Tipton 2009 Personal Financial Disclosure]

### **Assets and Unearned Income**

Below is a section highlighting Scott Tipton's 2009 and 2010 assets and unearned income.

#### **2009: Invested Thousands in Bank of America**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Bank of America valued between \$1,001- \$15,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

#### **...Also Invested in Bank of America Jointly with His Wife**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held joint assets with his wife Jean in Bank of America valued between \$1,001- \$15,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

#### **October 2008: Received \$15 Billion in Bailout Money**

On October 28, 2010, Bank of America received \$15 billion from the U.S. Treasury in bailout money. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

#### **...Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

#### **2009: Invested Thousands in Zions Bancorporation**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Zions Bancorporation valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **Also Invested in Zions Bancorporation Jointly with His Wife**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held joint assets with his wife in Zions Bancorporation valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **November 2008: Received \$1.4 Billion in Bailout Money**

On November 17, 2008, Zions Bancorporation received \$1.4 billion in bailout money from the U.S Treasury. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

### **...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **2009: Invested Thousands in Citigroup**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Citigroup valued between \$2,002- \$30,000. Tipton did not receive dividend payments from Citigroup in 2009 [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **October 2008: Received \$25 Billion in Bailout Money**

On October 28, 2010, Citigroup received \$25 billion in bailout money from the U.S. Treasury. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

### **...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$2,002-\$30,000. Tipton did not receive dividend payments from Citigroup in 2010. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **2009: Invested Thousands in JP Morgan Chase**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in JP Morgan Chase valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1,001-\$2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

### **October 2008: Received \$25 Billion in Bailout Money**

On October 28, 2010, JP Morgan Chase received \$25 billion in bailout money from the U.S. Treasury. [CNN Money Report on Bank Bailout Funds, accessed 6/26/11]

**...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1,001-\$2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

**Sued by National Credit Union Association for Misrepresenting the Value of Mortgage Securities**

In June 2011, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) announced that it was filing suit against JP Morgan Chase for misrepresenting the value of mortgage-backed securities that they sold in recent years, triggering the failure of five credit unions.

The NCUA has filed suit for over \$800 million against JP Morgan Chase and Royal Bank of Scotland. Additional suits are expected with potential damages sought to be in the billions. [CNN Money, 6/21/11]

**2009: Invested Thousands in Royal Bank of Scotland**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Royal Bank of Scotland valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was \$1,001- 2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

**...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1,001-\$2,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

**Sued by National Credit Union Association for Misrepresenting the Value of Mortgage Securities**

In June 2011, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) announced that it was filing suit against Royal Bank of Scotland for misrepresenting the value of mortgage-backed securities that they sold in recent years, triggering the failure of five credit unions.

The NCUA has filed suit for over \$800 million against JP Morgan Chase and Royal Bank of Scotland. Additional suits are expected with potential damages sought to be in the billions. [CNN Money, 6/21/11]

**2009: Invested Thousands in Royal Dutch Shell**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets jointly with his wife Jean in Royal Dutch Shell valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$201-\$1,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

**...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$201-\$1,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

**2009: Invested Thousands in Exxon Mobil**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Exxon Mobil valued between \$66,003- \$165,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$2,203- \$6,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

**...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton holding assets in Exxon Mobil valued at \$52,003-\$150,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1,403-\$4,500. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

**2009: Invested Thousands in GlaxoSmithKline**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in GlaxoSmithKline valued between \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$201-1,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

**...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets in GlaxoSmithKline valued at \$15,001- \$50,000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$201-\$1,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

**2009: Invested Thousands in Merck and Company**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Merck and Company valued between \$1,001- \$15,000. The total amount of income received in dividends in 2009 from his holdings was valued at \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

**...While Tipton Continued to Invest Thousands in the Company in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold assets in Merck and Company valued at \$1001-\$15000. The total amount of income received through dividend payouts was \$1-\$200. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **Held Assets in Tipton Properties**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Tipton Properties valued between \$500,001- \$1,000,000. Tipton did not receive any income from Tipton Properties in 2009 [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

#### **... Continued to Have the Asset in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold the asset Tipton Properties valued at \$500,001-\$1,000,000. Tipton did not receive any income from Tipton Properties in 2010 [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **Held Assets in Hidden Valley CRM**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in Hidden Valley CRM valued between \$1,000,001- \$5,000,000. Tipton did not receive any income from Hidden Valley CRM in 2009. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

#### **... Continued to Have the Asset in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold the asset Hidden Valley CRM valued at \$1,000,001-\$5,000,000. Tipton did not receive any income from Hidden Valley CRM in 2010. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **Held Assets in 4-Way Construction**

According to Tipton's 2009 financial disclosure, Scott Tipton held assets in "4 Way Construction" valued between \$500,001- 1,000,000. The total amount of income received in interest in 2009 from this asset was valued at \$15,001-\$50,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2009]

*Note: In Scott Tipton's 2009 and 2010 PFD, 4-Way Construction is listed instead of what is assumed to be Four Way Company. In a search conducted with the New Mexico Secretary of State there was no "4-Way Construction" listed as ever having incorporated [New Mexico Secretary of State, accessed 6/27/11]\*

#### **... Continued to Have the Asset in 2010**

Tipton's 2010 financial disclosure shows Tipton continuing to hold the asset 4 Way Construction valued at 250,001-500,000. The total amount of income received through interest payouts was \$5,001-\$15,000. [Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure, 2010]

### **2009 Personal Financial Disclosure- Candidate Disclosure (Form B)**

The following is an overview of Tipton's unearned income in 2009.

Asset Name	Value of Asset	Type of	Current Year	Preceding Year
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		Income		
Exxon Mobil	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Exxon Mobile Corp.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
BP PLC (DC)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Marathon Oil	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Exxon Mobil	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Occidental Petroleum	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Royal Dutch Shell	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Kinder Morgan Energy	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Queststar Corp*	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$201-\$1,000***
Alliant Energy*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Questar Corp*	\$100,001-\$250,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Alliant Energy	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Citigroup**	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None	\$201-\$1,000***
RMA Money Market Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
BAC Capital Trust I (Bank of Am. Affiliate)**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
JP Morgan Chase CAPXI**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Morgan Stanley CAP TRV**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Royal Bank of Scotland PLC	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
RMA Money Market Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$250	\$1-\$250
RMA Tax Free Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank USA	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zions Bancorp**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank USA (DC)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Westpac Banking Corp	\$100,001-\$250,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Bank of America**	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Citigroup**	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None	\$1,001-\$2,500***
Bank of America**	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zions Bancorp**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Vectra Bank CCA	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200

Broomfield Colo-Bond	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Denver, Colo Revenue Bond	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Broomfield Revenue Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Summit Co. Rev. Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Las Cruces Rev. Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Tipton Properties	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	None	None	None
Hidden Valley CRM	\$1,00,001-\$5,000,000	None	None	None
4-Way Construction	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	Rent	\$15,001-\$50,000	\$15,001-\$50,000
Petty Building	\$250,001-\$500,000	Interest	\$2,501-\$5,000	\$5,001-\$15,000***
702 Arbor St.	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	Interest	\$5,001-\$15,000	\$5,001-\$15,000
St. Philip	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	Interest	\$5,001-\$15,000	\$5,001-\$15,000
AT&T*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$5,000
Travelers Co	\$1,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Helios Return Fund	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
First Units Preferred	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Ridges Metro Dist	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Denver Airport Rev*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
PowerShares QQQ	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Unts (?) FT Preferred	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
UPS	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Qwest (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Walt Disney	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Hewlett Packard	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
National Semiconductor	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$201-\$1,000***
Qwest Comm.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Ashland Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
AT&T	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$5,000	\$201-\$5,000
Medco Health Solutions	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None	None
Merck & Co Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Tim Horton's INC	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Zweig FD Com	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Amtrade (?) CEA	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Amreade CEA*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Ashland Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200

AT&T	\$15,000-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Glaxo SmithKline	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Qwest Comm.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$1-\$200***
Travelers Co*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zweig Total Return	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
John Hancock Patriot	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$2,501-\$5,000***
Intel Corp	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$4,024,066- \$7,410,000</b>		<b>\$47,3616-\$1,980,000</b>	<b>\$50,567-\$880,600</b>

[Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure 2009]

\* - Denoted as Scott Tipton Trust/Scott Tipton Exempt/Scott Tipton AMTR (written differently every time)

\*\* - Recipient of Bank Bailout Funds

\*\*\* - Significant difference between income of previous and current years

## 2010 Personal Financial Disclosure- Candidate Disclosure (Form B)

The following is an overview of Tipton's unearned income in 2010.

Asset Name	Value of Asset	Type of Income	Current Year	Preceding Year
Exxon Mobil	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Exxon Mobile Corp.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
BP PLC (DC)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Marathon Oil	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Exxon Mobil	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Occidental Petroleum	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Royal Dutch Shell	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Kinder Morgan Energy	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Queststar Corp*	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Alliant Energy	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Questar Corp*	\$100,001-\$250,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Alliant Energy*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Citigroup**	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None	None
RMA Money Market Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
BAC Capital Trust I (Bank of Am. Affiliate)**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
JP Morgan Chase Trust I	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500

Morgan Stanley Cap Trust	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Royal Bank of Scotland PLC	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
RMA Money Market Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
RMA Tax Free Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zions Bancorp**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank USA (DC)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Westpac Banking Corp	\$100,001-\$250,000	Dividends	\$2,501-\$5,000	\$2,501-\$5,000
Bank of America**	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Citigroup**	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None	None
Bank of America**	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zions Bancorp**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Vectra Bank CCA	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Broomfield Colo-Bond	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Denver, Colo Revenue Bond	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Broomfield Revenue Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Summit Co. Rev. Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Las Cruces Rev. Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Tipton Properties	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	None		
Hidden Valley CRM		None		
4-Way Construction	\$250,001-\$500,000	Rent	\$5,001-\$15,000	\$5,001-\$15,000
Petty Building	\$50,001-\$100,000	Interest	\$2,501-\$5,000	\$2,501-\$5,000
702 Arbor St.	\$100,001-\$250,000	Interest	\$5,001-\$15,000	\$5,001-\$15,000
St. Philip	\$100,001-\$250,000	Interest	\$5,001-\$15,000	\$5,001-\$15,000
AT&T*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Travelers Co	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Helios Return Fund	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
First Units Preferred	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Ridges Metro Dist	\$1-\$1,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Denver Airport Rev*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
PowerShares QQQ	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200

Unts (?) FT Preferred	\$1,001-\$15,001	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
UPS	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Qwest (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Walt Disney (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Hewlett Packard	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
National Semiconductor	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Qwest Comm.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Ashland Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
AT&T	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Menco Health Solutions	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None	None
Merck & Co Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Tim Horton's INC	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zweig FD Com	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
Amtrade CEA	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Amreade CEA*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Ashland Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
AT&T	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Glaxo SmithKline	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Qwest Comm.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-200	\$1-\$200
Travelers Co*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200	\$1-\$200
Zweig Total Return	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
John Hancock Patriot	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500	\$1,001-\$2,500
Intel Corp	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
PepsiCo	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000	\$201-\$1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,760,067-\$4,676,000</b>		<b>\$37,465-\$113,200</b>	<b>\$37,465-\$113,200</b>

[Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure 2010 Form B]

\* - Denoted as Scott Tipton Trust/Scott Tipton Exempt/Scott Tipton AMTR (written differently every time)

\*\* - Recipient of Bank Bailout Funds

## 2010 Personal Financial Disclosure- Member Disclosure (Form A)

The following is an overview of Tipton's unearned income in 2010 as an elected member of Congress.

Asset Name	Value of Asset	Type of Income	Current Year Income
Exxon Mobil	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Exxon Mobile Corp.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
BP PLC (DC)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Marathon Oil	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200

Exxon Mobil	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Occidental Petroleum	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Royal Dutch Shell	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Kinder Morgan Energy	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Alliant Energy	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Questar Corp*	\$100,001-\$250,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Alliant Energy*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Citigroup**	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None
RMA Money Market Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
BAC Capital Trust I (Bank of Am. Affiliate)**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
JP Morgan Chase Trust I	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Morgan Stanley Cap Trust	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Royal Bank of Scotland PLC	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
RMA Money Market Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
RMA Tax Free Fund (UBS)	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank	\$50,001-\$100,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Zions Bancorp**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
UBS Bank USA	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Westpac Banking Corp	\$100,001-\$250,000	Dividends	\$2,501-\$5,000
Bank of America**	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Citigroup**	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None
Bank of America**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Zions Bancorp**	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Vectra Bank CCA	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1-\$200
Broomfield Bond Co	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000
Denver CO Revenue Bond	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000
Broomfield Revenue Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000
Summit Co. Rev. Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000
Las Cruces Rev. Bond	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1,001-\$2,500
Tipton Properties	\$500,001-\$1,000,000	None	
Hidden Valley	\$1,000,001-\$5,000,000	None	None
4-Way Construction	\$250,001-\$500,000	Rent	\$5,001-\$15,000
Petty Building	\$50,001-\$100,000	Interest	\$2,501-\$5,000

702 Arbor St.	\$100,001-\$250,000	Interest	\$5,001-\$15,000
St. Philip	\$100,001-\$250,000	Interest	\$5,001-\$15,000
AT&T*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Travelers Co	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Helios Return Fund	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
First Units Preferred	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Ridges Metro Dist	\$1,001-\$15,000	Interest	\$201-\$1,000
Denver Airport Rev*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Interest	\$1,001-\$2,500
PowerShares QQQ	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Unts FT Preferred	\$1,001-\$15,001	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
UPS	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Qwest (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Walt Disney (SP)	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Hewlett Packard	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
National Semiconductor	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Qwest Comm.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Ashland Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
AT&T	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Menco Health Solutions	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None
Merck & Co Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Tim Horton's INC	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Zweig FD Com	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Amtrade CEA	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Amtrade CEA*	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Ashland Inc	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
AT&T	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Glaxo SmithKline	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Qwest Comm.	\$1,001-\$15,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
Travelers Co*	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1-\$200
Zweig Total Return	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
John Hancock Patriot	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$1,001-\$2,500
Intel Corp	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
PepsiCo	\$15,001-\$50,000	Dividends	\$201-\$1,000
State of Colorado Vanguard Index Fund	\$1,001-\$15,000	None	None
NY Life- Whole Life Insurance Policy	\$100,001-\$250,000	None	None
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2, 854, 072-\$9,960,000</b>		<b>\$37, 066-\$113,100</b>

[Scott Tipton Personal Financial Disclosure 2010 Form A]

\* - Denoted as Scott Tipton Trust/Scott Tipton Exempt/Scott Tipton AMTR (written differently every time)

\*\* - Recipient of Bank Bailout Funds

## ...Appendix II – Bills as Primary Sponsor

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Sponsored legislation to give county officials pay raises*
- ✓ *Sponsored legislation to reduce the corporate tax rate to 10 percent*
- ✓ *Sponsored legislation encouraging the modification of the Hatch Act*

**Tipton sponsored legislation that gave pay raises to all of Montezuma County's elected officials. As a congressman, he sponsored a bill to reduce the corporate tax rate to 10 percent. He also sponsored a resolution that called for the modification of the Hatch Act.**

Need a gray bar and an intro sentence telling the reader what they're looking at.

BILL	BILL DESCRIPTION	STATUS
<b>2009 Regular Session</b>		
HB09-1037	CONCERNING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF MONTROSE COUNTY FOR COUNTY COURT PURPOSES.	Signed
HB09-1185	CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR DOCUMENTS RELATED TO WATER RIGHTS APPLICATIONS.	Signed
HB09-1203	CONCERNING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF MONTEZUMA COUNTY	Signed
SB09-241	CONCERNING DNA TESTING OF ADULTS ARRESTED FOR A FELONY, AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION THEREFOR.	Signed
<b>2010 Regular Session</b>		
HB10-1096	CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER INSPECTORS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.	Signed
HJR10-1022	CONCERNING MODIFICATION OF THE FEDERAL "HATCH ACT OF 1939" FOR CERTAIN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN RURAL AREAS WHOSE POSITIONS PRECLUDE THEM FROM RUNNING FOR PARTISAN POLITICAL OFFICE.	Adopted
SJR10-018	CONCERNING OPPOSITION TO THE RETROACTIVE APPLICATION OF	Adopted

	FEDERAL "DAVIS-BACON ACT" PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENTS TO STATE REVOLVING FUND WATER PROJECTS AS REQUIRED BY PUB.L. 111-88, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, PROTESTING THE RETROACTIVE APPLICATION OF SUCH PREVAILING WAGE REQUIREMENTS TO RELOAN FUNDS HELD WITHIN THE STATE REVOLVING FUNDS.	
SJR10-020	CONCERNING THE COMMEMORATION OF THE TRI-UTE ELDERS MEETING IN COLORADO IN MARCH 2010, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, HONORING THE CULTURE AND HERITAGE OF THE SOUTHERN UTE TRIBE, THE UTE MOUNTAIN UTE TRIBE, AND THE NORTHERN UTE TRIBE.	Adopted

[Colorado General Assembly, Bill search by sponsor, accessed 7/06/11]

BILL	BILL DESCRIPTION	STATUS
<b>2011 Regular Session</b>		
HR 1074	To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the corporate income tax rate to 10 percent and to lower the rate of tax on capital gains and dividends to 10 percent.	Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means
HR 1658	To name the Department of Veterans Affairs telehealth clinic in Craig, Colorado, as the "Major William Edward Adams Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic".	Referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

[Thomas.loc.gov, accessed 7/6/11]

## ...Appendix III – Campaign Finance

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Speaker Boehner's and Leader Cantor's PACs maxed out in contributions to Tipton's campaign*
- ✓ *Received \$2,500 from Paul Ryan*
- ✓ *Received \$2,500 from Mitt Romney*
- ✓ *Received \$5,000 from Sarah Palin*

**Tipton received the maximum amount in campaign donations from Speaker John Boehner and Eric Cantor. He received \$2,500 from Paul Ryan. He also received \$2,500 from presidential hopeful and former Governor Mitt Romney.**

### **Contributors- Federal Political Action Committees (2010)**

Below is a list elected officials' political action committee donations to Scott Tipton in 2010.

Congressional Political Action Committee	Details	Date
Texas Freedom Fund (Rep Joe Barton, R-TX)	\$400	11/8/2010
New Pioneers PAC (Rep. Greg Walden, R-OR)	\$1,400	10/27/2010
Western Values (Rep. Mike Coffman, R-CO)	\$1,000	10/27/2010
CMR Political Action Committee (Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-WA)	\$1,000	10/27/2010
Ranger Political Action Committee aka Ranger PAC (Rep. Geoff Davis, R-KY)	\$1,000	10/26/2010
Supporting Conservatives of Today and Tomorrow SCOTTPAC (Rep. Scott Garrett, R-NJ)	\$1,000	10/26/2010
Continuing A Majority Party Action Committee (CAMPAC) (Rep. Dave Camp, R-MI)	\$4,000	10/25/2010
Prosperity PAC (Rep. Paul Ryan, R-WI)	\$2,500	10/25/2010
New PAC (Rep. Devin Nunes, R-CA)	\$1,000	10/22/2010
SarahPAC (ex-Gov. Sarah Palin, R-AK)	\$5,000	10/21/2010
American Success PAC (Rep David Dreier, R-CA)	\$500	10/20/2010
Supporting Conservatives of Today and Tomorrow SCOTTPAC (Rep. Scott Garrett, R-NJ)	\$500	10/19/2010
Trust PAC; Team Republicans for Utilizing Sensible Tactics (Rep Fred Upton, R-MI)	\$1,000	10/18/2010

Longhorn PAC (Rep. Lamar Smith, R-TX)	\$1,500	10/17/2010
Help America's Leaders Political Action Cmte (Rep Hal Rogers, R-KY)	\$1,000	10/15/2010
Pioneer PAC (Rep. Rob Bishop, R-UT)	\$1,000	10/14/2010
Invest in a Strong and Secure America (ISSA PAC)(Rep. Darrell Issa, R-CA)	\$2,000	10/13/2010
ICE PAC (Rep. Erik Paulsen, R-MN)	\$1,000	10/13/2010
For America's Republican Majority (FARM PAC)(Rep. Tom Latham, R-IA)	\$1,000	10/13/2010
Conservative Opportunity Leadership and Enterprise PAC (COLE PAC)(Rep. Tom Cole, R-OK)	\$2,000	10/12/2010
Win Back America Political Action Committee (Rep. Mike Pence, R-IN)	\$1,000	10/7/2010
Conservative Opportunities for a New America PAC (CONA PAC) (Rep. Michael Conaway, R-TX)	\$500	10/6/2010
13th Colony Leadership Committee (Rep Jack Kingston, R-GA)	\$5,000	10/5/2010
People for Enterprise, Trade, and Economic Growth (Pete PAC)(Rep Pete Sessions, R-TX)	\$5,000	10/1/2010
Vote To Elect Republicans Now PAC (VERN PAC)(Rep. Vern Buchanan, R-FL)	\$1,000	9/30/2010
Wedge PAC (Rep. Marsha Blackburn, R-TN)	\$1,000	9/30/2010
New PAC (Rep. Devin Nunes, R-CA)	\$1,000	9/29/2010
John S Fund (Rep. John Shimkus, R-IL)	\$1,000	9/29/2010
Help America's Leaders Political Action Cmte (Rep Hal Rogers, R-KY)	\$1,000	9/29/2010
Freedom and Security PAC (Rep. John Kline, R-MN)	\$1,000	9/29/2010
Conservative & Republican Together Equals Results PAC (Rep. John Carter, R-TX)	\$1,000	9/28/2010
Good Fund (Rep. Robert Goodlatte, R-VA)	\$500	9/28/2010
American Success PAC (Rep David Dreier, R-CA)	\$500	9/28/2010
Prosperity PAC (Rep. Paul Ryan, R-WI)	\$2,500	9/27/2010
Majority Committee Political Action Committee - MC PAC (Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-CA)	\$2,000	9/27/2010
Texas Freedom Fund (Rep Joe Barton, R-TX)	\$1,000	9/27/2010
21st Century PAC (Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-CA)	\$1,000	9/27/2010
Liberty Project (formerly TexasPac) (Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-TX)	\$1,000	9/27/2010
New Pioneers PAC (Rep. Greg Walden, R-OR)	\$1,000	9/27/2010
CMR Political Action Committee (Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, R-WA)	\$500	9/27/2010
Every Republican Is Crucial (ERIC PAC)(Rep. Eric Cantor, R-VA)	\$5,000	9/24/2010
Continuing A Majority Party Action Committee (CAMPAC) (Rep. Dave Camp, R-MI)	\$1,000	9/24/2010
Longhorn PAC (Rep. Lamar Smith, R-TX)	\$500	9/24/2010
Jobs, Economy and Budget Fund (JEB Fund)(Rep. Jeb Hensarling, R-TX)	\$2,000	9/23/2010
Invest in a Strong and Secure America (ISSA PAC)(Rep. Darrell Issa, R-CA)	\$1,000	9/22/2010
Freedom Project (Rep John Boehner, R-OH)	\$5,000	9/9/2010
Free and Strong America PAC Inc (ex-Pres. cand. Mitt Romney, R-MA)	\$2,500	8/18/2010

Majority Committee Political Action Committee - MC PAC (Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-CA)	\$2,000	4/28/2010
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[CQ Money Line, accessed 7/6/11]

### Top Contributors – Federal Committee

Below is a list of top contributors to Scott Tipton in 2010.

Contributor	Total	Individuals	PACs
Moss Inc	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$0
Bartlit, Beck et al	\$10,599	\$10,599	\$0
Associated Builders & Contractors	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Eaton Metal Products	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$0
Gmco Corp	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$0
Land Title Guarantee Co	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$0
Wexford Capital	\$9,600	\$9,600	\$0
Seakr Engineering	\$8,050	\$8,050	\$0
Anschutz Corp	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$0
Durango Coca-Cola	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$0
SG Interests	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$0
Colorado Christian University	\$6,800	\$6,800	\$0
New Giant Corp	\$6,800	\$6,800	\$0
University of Colorado	\$5,900	\$5,900	\$0
Balcomb & Green	\$5,800	\$5,800	\$0
Colorado Dept of Agriculture	\$5,550	\$5,550	\$0
Mesa Energy Partners	\$5,500	\$5,500	\$0
Coorstek Inc	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$0
Molson Coors Brewing	\$5,200	\$5,200	\$0
Fairfield & Woods	\$5,050	\$5,050	\$0
Kachi Partners	\$5,050	\$5,050	\$0
McDonald's Corp	\$5,050	\$5,050	\$0

[opensecrets.org, accessed 7/6/11]

### Top Contributors by Industry – Federal Committee

#### Top Industry Contributors (2009-2010)

Below is a list of top industry contributors to Scott Tipton in 2010.

Industry	Total	Individuals	PACs
Retired	\$156,583	\$156,583	\$0
Leadership PACs	\$79,300	\$0	\$79,300
Real Estate	\$69,624	\$69,624	\$0

<b>Oil &amp; Gas</b>	<b>\$54,150</b>	<b>\$39,900</b>	<b>\$14,250</b>
Misc Finance	<b>\$43,250</b>	<b>\$43,250</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Lawyers/Law Firms	<b>\$41,374</b>	<b>\$41,374</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Food & Beverage	<b>\$32,250</b>	<b>\$26,750</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>
General Contractors	<b>\$30,640</b>	<b>\$20,640</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>
Republican/Conservative	<b>\$25,450</b>	<b>\$17,450</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>
Livestock	<b>\$24,700</b>	<b>\$24,700</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Securities & Investment	<b>\$24,350</b>	<b>\$24,350</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Misc Manufacturing & Distributing	<b>\$23,100</b>	<b>\$23,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Health Professionals	<b>\$21,850</b>	<b>\$21,850</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Misc Energy	<b>\$20,950</b>	<b>\$20,950</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Automotive	<b>\$20,251</b>	<b>\$12,751</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
Candidate Committees	<b>\$16,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$16,500</b>
Education	<b>\$14,800</b>	<b>\$14,800</b>	<b>\$0</b>
TV/Movies/Music	<b>\$13,900</b>	<b>\$11,400</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
Misc Business	<b>\$13,491</b>	<b>\$13,491</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Business Services	<b>\$13,050</b>	<b>\$13,050</b>	<b>\$0</b>

[opensecrets.org, accessed 7/6/11]

## ...Appendix IV- Koch Industries Issues

### Significant Findings

- ✓ *Received campaign donations from Koch Industries*
- ✓ *Received \$24,650 Koch Industry affiliates*

**Scott Tipton accepted campaign donations from Koch Industries, a right leaning organization that gives to Republican and Tea Party organizations.**

### Took \$2,500 from Koch Industries

In January 2011, Tipton received a \$2,500 contribution from Koch Industries Inc Political Action Committee. [VoteTipton.Com, 2011 April Quarterly FEC Report, Filed 04/15/11]

### Campaign Contributors Were Close Koch Brothers Associates

In June 2010, Koch Industries hosted a weekend getaway at the St. Regis Resort in Aspen, CO. The event was titled “Understanding and Addressing Threats to American Free Enterprise and Prosperity.” Attendance to the weekend getaway was by invitation only.

The event was closed to the public and individuals who did attend were held to strict standards of confidentiality. Attendees were not to share meeting notes or materials nor were they to update the events of their trip through social or traditional media outlets. All attendees had to wear nametags at all times.

Below are individuals who were in attendance that donated to Tipton’s 2010 or 2012 campaign. All but two individuals who attended from Colorado donated to Scott Tipton’s campaign. [Koch Industries Memo, [9/24/10](#); FEC.gov]

Name	Amount Donated	Date	Affiliation
Philip Anschutz	\$2400.00	3/16/2010	ANSCHUTZ CORPORATION/PRESIDENT
Phillip Anschutz	\$2400.00	9/25/2010	ANSCHUTZ CORPORATION/PRESIDENT
Nancy Anschutz	\$2400.00	3/16/2010	
Patrick Broe	\$1000.00	11/01/2010	THE BROE GROUP/CEO
Alex Cranberg	\$4800.00	8/09/2010	ASPECT MANAGEMENT CORP./MANAGER
Kaye Lynn Fote	\$2400.00	6/30/2010	
Kaye Lynn Fote	\$2400.00	10/03/2010	

<b>Robert Hawk</b>	\$2400.00	7/12/2010	HAWK COMMUNICATIONS/OWNER
<b>Lorraine Winnerman</b>	\$600.00	3/15/2011	
<b>Earl Wright</b>	\$250.00	6/17/2010	ASSET MANAGEMENT GROUP/CO-FOUNDER
<b>Fred Hamilton</b>	\$2400.00	4/27/2010	THE HAMILTON COMPANIES/PRESIDENT
<b>Fred Malek</b>	\$1200.00	8/17/2010	THAYER CAPITAL PARTNERS/PRIVATE E
<b>Total</b>	\$24,650		

[fec.gov, accessed 7/7/11]