

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R14-0927.01 Kurt Woock x4349

HJR14-1014

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Sonnenberg,

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Brophy,

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House Committees

Senate Committees

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-1014

101 CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF MARCH 26, 2014, AS  
102 AGRICULTURE DAY IN COLORADO.

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1 WHEREAS, Americans enjoy the safest, most abundant, and most  
2 affordable food supply in the world, thanks largely to the efficiency and  
3 productivity of America's farm and ranch families; and

4 WHEREAS, As the world's population grows from 7 billion to 9  
5 billion by 2045, farmers and ranchers face the challenge of producing  
6 more food, feed, fiber, and fuel; and

7 WHEREAS, Today, 98% of all U.S. farms are family-owned, and  
8 each American farmer feeds more than 156 people, a dramatic increase  
9 from the 1960s, when each farmer could feed only 25 people; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
Final Reading  
March 26, 2014

1           WHEREAS, Americans spend less than 10% of their annual  
2 income on food, less than any other developed nation, while American  
3 farmers and ranchers receive only 12 cents of every dollar spent on food;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, American farmers and ranchers are the most capable  
6 and responsible providers for the safety, health, and well-being of their  
7 livestock; and

8           WHEREAS, The agriculture industry is the second largest industry  
9 in Colorado, supporting more than 173,000 jobs in Colorado and  
10 contributing \$41 billion to the state's economy; and

11           WHEREAS, Colorado was responsible for exporting more than \$2  
12 billion in food and agricultural products in 2012; and

13           WHEREAS, Colorado agriculture contributes to national security  
14 not only by providing food and fiber, but also by producing energy; and

15           WHEREAS, Colorado recognizes landowners whose livelihood  
16 depends upon the property they reside on, operate on, and care for as they  
17 work to provide basic necessities to all; and

18           WHEREAS, Colorado's agriculture industry requires an adequate,  
19 reliable work force in order to provide food from the field to the table;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Colorado's farms and ranches provide wildlife  
22 habitats, open space, and a site for innovative and sustainable farming  
23 practices that ensure the protection of state resources; and

24           WHEREAS, Colorado's agriculture industry produces a diverse  
25 and valuable array of livestock and crops, including cattle, sheep, hogs,  
26 goats, bison, elk, eggs, wine grapes, fruit, vegetables, greenhouse and  
27 nursery products, honey, and aquaculture, as well as commodities  
28 including corn, wheat, and hay; and

29           WHEREAS, Colorado's agriculturists employ sound animal  
30 husbandry practices, ensuring that livestock remain healthy, productive,  
31 and content; and

1           WHEREAS, Colorado agriculture provides an estimated \$67.5  
2 million annually to support the state's wildlife; and

3           WHEREAS, Colorado's farmers and ranchers are innovative  
4 entrepreneurs and business leaders who remain resilient in their  
5 dedication to the continued prosperity of the state's agriculture; and

6           WHEREAS, The protection of private property and the rights of  
7 landowners who provide wholesome, safe food to Americans and others  
8 worldwide is essential; and

9           WHEREAS, Farmers and ranchers are critical to Colorado  
10 agritourism, welcoming tourists from around the world and showing them  
11 all Colorado has to offer; and

12           WHEREAS, Losing agricultural land and water to other uses will  
13 result in overall negative impacts to the state's economy and a loss of food  
14 production vital to all Coloradans; and

15           WHEREAS, March 25, 2014, is "National Agriculture Day"; now,  
16 therefore,

17           *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth*  
18 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

19           That we, the members of the General Assembly, proudly recognize  
20 "Colorado Agriculture Day" on March 26, 2014, in celebration of the  
21 many men and women who strengthen the nation's agriculture industry;  
22 promote a safe, high quality, and sustainable food supply; and protect  
23 consumers, the environment, and natural resources.

24           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
25 to the Honorable Governor, John Hickenlooper; Colorado Commissioner  
26 of Agriculture, John Salazar; and the members of the Colorado  
27 Congressional Delegation.