

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-1195.01 Erin Enders x3205

HR17-1008

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Herod and Wist,

House Committees

HOUSE RESOLUTION 17-1008

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF COLORADO**
102 **LIBRARIES.**

1 WHEREAS, Colorado libraries are a vital and essential public
2 resource that provide free and equal access to educational and
3 recreational material and enrich the lives of all citizens; and

4 WHEREAS, Libraries play a critical role in democracy and
5 community development by promoting civil discourse and empowering
6 citizens to learn, imagine, and succeed; and

7 WHEREAS, Libraries across Colorado lead the way in developing
8 new and innovative ways of meeting the needs of and uniting the state's
9 increasingly diverse population; and

10 WHEREAS, Colorado receives \$2.7 million annually from the
11 federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for library
12 services and technology, which is roughly two-thirds of the State
13 Library's total operational costs; and

14 WHEREAS, The IMLS is the main funding source for more than

*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.*

1 40 different Colorado library services and programs, yet costs less than
2 49 cents per resident; and

3 WHEREAS, One such program is the Check Out Colorado State
4 Parks program, now in its second year. The program allows each library
5 to offer two Colorado state park passes and activity backpacks to library
6 patrons. The program was used almost 4,000 times total, or more than 165
7 times a week in the first six months; and

8 WHEREAS, Early learning programs, such as One Book 4
9 Colorado, which gives away 75,000 books each year to 4-year-olds
10 statewide; Storyblocks.org, an online tool to help parents learn how to
11 reinforce early learning skills; and the statewide Summer Reading
12 Program that encourages children, teens, and adults to read and learn for
13 fun, are all funded through the IMLS; and

14 WHEREAS, The IMLS funds support professional development
15 programs like the Career Online High School, which, when launched this
16 month, will help more than 200 adults in 17 libraries across the state earn
17 high school diplomas and career experience, and the Highly Effective
18 School Library program, which helps schools provide tools for students
19 to develop 21st century skills and meet academic standards; and

20 WHEREAS, Essential library programs and services, such as the
21 Colorado Talking Book Library, Colorado's historic newspaper
22 collection, the state's institutional libraries, state publications, and many
23 others all receive funding support through the IMLS; and

24 WHEREAS, This vital funding from the IMLS allows every
25 Coloradan to have access to these programs and ensures that Colorado's
26 rich diversity and culture is represented by libraries across the state,
27 including the Blair-Caldwell African American Research Library in
28 Denver's historic Five Points neighborhood that is devoted to preserving
29 and showcasing the many contributions of African Americans to
30 Colorado and the West and is one of only five library institutions in the
31 nation that encompasses a circulating collection, archive, and museum;
32 and the Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzalez Branch Library, designed specifically
33 to celebrate the diverse and culturally rich community of West Denver;
34 and

35 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-first*
36 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

1 That we, the members of the Colorado House of Representatives:

2 (1) Declare our support and appreciation for Colorado libraries
3 and staff; and

4 (2) Recognize that the invaluable public services and programs
5 provided by Colorado libraries and staff cannot be sustained without the
6 funding support of the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.

7 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to
8 Donald Trump, President of the United States; Mike Pence, Vice
9 President of the United States; John Hickenlooper, Governor of Colorado;
10 the Colorado Association of Libraries; the Colorado Department of
11 Education; and the members of Colorado's Congressional delegation.