

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R14-0285.01 Ashley Zimmerman x2291

SJR14-016

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Grantham and Nicholson,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Becker and Wright,

Senate Committees

Transportation

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-016

101 **CONCERNING THE RENAMING OF THE TUNNELS LOCATED WITHIN**
102 **CLEAR CREEK COUNTY AND COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE**
103 **TWIN TUNNELS AS THE "VETERANS MEMORIAL TUNNELS".**

1 WHEREAS, Colorado has a proud and distinguished history of
2 dedicated military service by men and women of this state whose courage,
3 heroism, and sacrifice preserve the liberties and democratic way of life set
4 forth in our state and federal constitutions; and

5 WHEREAS, Colorado benefits significantly from the presence and
6 military service of the more than 60,000 men and women in our state who
7 serve in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and
8 Coast Guard; the branch Reserves; the Colorado National Guard; and the
9 Civil Air Patrol; 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.

1 WHEREAS, In addition to active members of the Armed Services,
2 Colorado is the proud home of more than 426,000 military veterans who
3 have served their country long and well and who bring great honor and
4 distinction to the state; and

5 WHEREAS, Colorado is home not only to active duty service
6 personnel and veterans but also to the countless family members of these
7 men and women who display the same dedication, courage, and sacrifice;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Clear Creek County, one of the original territorial
10 counties in Colorado, has a long history of involvement with active duty
11 service personnel and veterans; and

12 WHEREAS, The roads and highways that run through Clear Creek
13 County have seen the footsteps of militia soldiers going to serve in the
14 Civil War and the vehicles of soldiers going to serve in World War I and
15 World War II; and

16 WHEREAS, The Clear Creek County roads have seen the return
17 of these soldiers, who would build the state's mining industry in the 19th
18 century and the ski industry in the 20th century due to the skill and
19 knowledge of the 10th Mountain Division troops; and

20 WHEREAS, The portion of Interstate 70 that runs through Clear
21 Creek County, and that includes the tunnels commonly known as the
22 Twin Tunnels, was part of the original Victory Highway established in
23 1921 in honor of the American forces who lost their lives in World War
24 I; and

25 WHEREAS, This section of Interstate 70 was also designated as
26 a Blue Star Highway in the 1940s in honor of those who served during
27 World War II; and

28 WHEREAS, Colorado should also never forget the sacrifices made
29 by its 94 men declared missing in action or prisoners of war while
30 defending the principles of liberty and justice during the Cold War and
31 the conflicts in Korea, Laos, and Vietnam; and

32 WHEREAS, Between 1950 and 2006, 641 Coloradans were killed
33 in action and 101 Coloradans were wounded in action, and the state

1 should never forget the sacrifices of those 742 soldiers; and

2 WHEREAS, In times of conflict around the globe, it is particularly
3 appropriate to recognize the Coloradans in all branches and components
4 of the Armed Services who serve around the world to protect the security
5 and peace of our nation and other nations; now, therefore,

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

8 (1) That the tunnels located within Clear Creek County, on
9 Interstate 70, commonly referred to as the Twin Tunnels, be designated
10 at the east and west entrances as the "Veterans Memorial Tunnels";

11 (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept
12 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial
13 placement of signs to mark the Twin Tunnels as the "Veterans Memorial
14 Tunnels";

15 (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore
16 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for
17 Clear Creek County for the maintenance of the markings for the
18 "Veterans Memorial Tunnels"; and

19 (4) That such signage be installed and erected at the conclusion of
20 the planned construction and widening of the so-named "Veterans
21 Memorial Tunnels".

22 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
23 to President Barack Obama; Governor John Hickenlooper; Colorado
24 Department of Transportation Executive Director Don Hunt; United
25 States Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx; Lieutenant General
26 Michelle Johnson, Superintendent, United States Air Force Academy;
27 Major General H. Michael Edwards, Adjutant General of Colorado;
28 Major General Paul LeCamera, Commanding General, 4th Infantry
29 Division at Fort Carson; Colonel Daniel Wright III, Commander of the
30 460th Space Wing, Buckley Air Force Base; Colonel William Liquori Jr.,
31 Commander, 50th Space Wing, Schriever Air Force Base; Colonel John
32 Shaw, Commander, 21st Space Wing, Peterson Air Force Base; the
33 Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs; the United Veterans Committee of
34 Colorado; Mountain States Chapter Paralyzed Veterans of America; the
35 American Legion Department of Colorado; Department of Colorado

- 1 Veterans of Foreign Wars; the Clear Creek County Commissioners; the
- 2 Idaho Springs City Council Members; the Mayor of Idaho Springs, Mike
- 3 Hillman; and each member of Colorado's congressional delegation.