

**Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

REVISED

LLS NO. R16-1229.01 Kurt Woock x4349

HJR16-1018

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Esgar and Vigil,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Garcia,

House Committees

Senate Committees

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-1018

101 **CONCERNING THE SUPPORT FOR GOODS PRODUCED IN COLORADO AND**
102 **OTHER STATES IN THE UNITED STATES.**

1 WHEREAS, Colorado has a proud history of manufacturing and
2 production, having always been defined by our independent and
3 enterprising spirit and our can-do attitude toward problem solving; and

4 WHEREAS, To connect Denver with the Western Slope by rail in
5 the nineteenth century, miners carved roads into impossibly steep
6 mountainsides across Colorado, and engineers blasted and drilled through
7 six miles of solid rock and called it the Moffat Tunnel; and

8 WHEREAS, Pueblo, the manufacturing hub of Colorado, also
9 known as the "Steel City", has time and time again revitalized the
10 economy of Colorado, with its rich natural resources and welcoming

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.

SENATE
Final Reading
April 27, 2016

HOUSE
Final Reading
April 15, 2016

1 business climate attracting a diverse group of entrepreneurs and workers
2 from across the country; and

3 WHEREAS, A strong domestic steel industry is a point of national
4 pride but has been threatened in recent years by cheaper, foreign-made
5 steel; and

6 WHEREAS, Buying and supporting American-made steel supports
7 the steel industry, our nation's infrastructure, and a healthy national
8 economy; and

9 WHEREAS, Colorado companies employ Coloradans and are the
10 backbone of our economy, with over 500,000 small businesses in the state
11 employing nearly 1,000,000 Colorado workers; and

12 WHEREAS, Buying American-made goods supports American
13 manufacturing jobs, which in turn support the middle class and lead to
14 overall prosperity, with fewer people in need; and

15 WHEREAS, Manufacturing is crucial to the nation's economic
16 recovery and sustained job growth; and

17 WHEREAS, America's work force can out-innovate and
18 out-compete the world and revive our manufacturing sector if we buy
19 American-made products; and

20 WHEREAS, Standing up for American manufacturing helps level
21 the playing field with large, multinational corporations; and

22 WHEREAS, Colorado lost about 25,000 manufacturing jobs
23 between 1994 and 2015, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, due,
24 in part, to unfair competition from companies overseas; and

25 WHEREAS, Buying American-made products not only creates
26 manufacturing jobs but also leads to a ripple effect for our economy; and

27 WHEREAS, More American manufacturing jobs not only reduce
28 the unemployment rate but also expand the tax base to pay for public
29 benefits such as Medicare and Social Security; and

30 WHEREAS, Buying American-made products protects Colorado's
31 natural environment, as American manufacturers follow strict

1 environmental regulations that do not exist in many of the countries that
2 export their goods to the U.S.; and

3 WHEREAS, The American steel industry is a leader in recycling,
4 with steel being one of the most widely recycled materials in the nation;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Buying American products supports safe and fair
7 working conditions, as many countries impose negligible regulations or
8 standards on working conditions and permit unreasonably long and unsafe
9 hours, child labor, and extremely low wages; and

10 WHEREAS, Purchasing American-made goods supports fair labor
11 standards and good jobs for good wages; and

12 WHEREAS, American-made products are safe and made with high
13 quality, compared to some foreign products that aren't held to the same
14 safety standards and that can put our children and families in danger; and

15 WHEREAS, Buying American-made products keeps our dollars
16 in the U.S., paying workers who directly or indirectly created the product,
17 who then spend their wages in the U.S.; and

18 WHEREAS, The economic recovery has not yet reached every
19 Colorado family; and

20 WHEREAS, We have the power to support Colorado and invest
21 in America by buying American- and Colorado-made goods; now,
22 therefore,

23 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventieth*
24 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

25 That the State of Colorado encourages the purchase of goods and
26 services from Colorado-based companies, farmers, and workers, and, in
27 the case of goods and services that are not available from Colorado
28 companies, farmers, or workers, from U.S.-based companies, farmers,
29 and workers in preference over goods and services grown, produced, or
30 manufactured in foreign countries.

31 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
32 to: Governor John Hickenlooper, the Colorado Congressional delegation,

- 1 President Barack Obama, the Pueblo County Commissioner, the Pueblo
- 2 City Council, and the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce.