

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R16-1226.01 Thomas Morris x4218

**HJR16-1021**

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**House Committees**

**Senate Committees**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-1021**

101      **CONCERNING THE NECESSITY FOR CONGRESS TO STREAMLINE THE**  
102                      **WATER PROJECT PERMITTING PROCESS.**

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1                      WHEREAS, The Colorado Water Plan has identified a gap  
2      between water supply and demand of over 550,000 acre-feet by 2050; and

3                      WHEREAS, The plan further identifies projects and processes  
4      intended to reduce this gap by providing an additional 400,000 acre-feet  
5      of storage by 2050; and

6                      WHEREAS, Meeting the goal of an additional 400,000 acre-feet  
7      of storage requires an 80% completion rate of the identified projects and  
8      processes; and

9                      WHEREAS, Many of these projects, as well as other water supply

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 projects across the state, have been subject to lengthy and costly  
2 permitting processes; and

3 WHEREAS, The following costs and delays jeopardize Colorado's  
4 ability to close the water supply gap:

5 Windy Gap Firming Project: 12 ½ years and \$14 million;

6 Northern Integrated Storage Project: 13 years and \$18 million;

7 Chatfield Reallocation Project: 15 years and \$10 million;

8 Gross Reservoir Enlargement: 13 years and \$20 million;

9 Long Hollow Reservoir: 19 years and \$1.9 million;

10 LEDE Reservoir Expansion: 8 years and \$300,000; and

11 WHEREAS, These permit time frames and costs are unacceptable,  
12 unnecessary, and unaffordable for Colorado communities; and

13 WHEREAS, The Colorado Water Plan advocates for effective and  
14 efficient permitting in which Colorado state agencies work together to  
15 complete their work early in the permitting process; and

16 WHEREAS, Federal review of proposed state water projects  
17 involves environmental review procedures that are conducted  
18 consecutively rather than in an efficient, concurrent manner, which adds  
19 significantly to the permit review time; and

20 WHEREAS, The state of Colorado is participating in a LEAN  
21 process with federal agencies that will result in the recommendation of  
22 several action items intended to streamline the permitting process so that  
23 it concludes within 90 days; now, therefore,

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

26 That Colorado's congressional delegation is urged to encourage the  
27 federal agencies to stay engaged in the LEAN process and support  
28 streamlining recommendations that cut waste, avoid duplication, provide  
29 greater coordination with the state, and ultimately reduce the cost and  
30 time of the water project permitting process.

31 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this joint resolution be  
32 provided to each member of Colorado's congressional delegation and  
33 Governor John Hickenlooper.