



**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-1029**

**BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Becker K., Hansen, Winter, Arndt, Bridges, Buck, Buckner, Catlin, Covarrubias, Danielson, Esgar, Garnett, Gray, Hamner, Herod, Humphrey, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Lawrence, Lee, Liston, Lontine, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mitsch Bush, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pettersen, Rosenthal, Sias, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Williams D., Wilson, Duran;**

**also SENATOR(S) Sonnenberg, Priola, Moreno, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Cooke, Coram, Crowder, Donovan, Fenberg, Gardner, Holbert, Kefalas, Lambert, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Scott, Smallwood, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Zenzinger.**

**CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 76 AS THE "COLORADO POLLINATOR HIGHWAY".**

WHEREAS, Pollinators, such as butterflies and bees, are valuable to Colorado's agriculture and native ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Native pollinators, as well as honeybees and beekeepers, provide pollination services across the state; and

WHEREAS, Agriculture in Colorado greatly benefits from both honeybees and native pollinators, with an estimated \$24 billion in economic impact annually across the nation; and

WHEREAS, Pollinators rely on a healthy, diverse habitat and access to three seasons of flowering native-plant communities for foraging, nesting, and breeding; and

WHEREAS, A healthy, diverse habitat promotes pollinator migration and can help provide pollination services to adjacent landowners, and in recent years habitat fragmentation has played a role in declining pollinator habitats; and

WHEREAS, Our highways provide a unique opportunity to utilize Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management to benefit pollinators, agriculture, and adjacent landowners; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) can reduce maintenance costs along a right-of-way by utilizing Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management and limiting roadside disturbance, which tools allow CDOT better management and coordination opportunities with landowners and local governments and provide regional planning and coordination; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

(1) That Interstate Highway 76 from Mile Marker 1 to Mile Marker 183 be renamed the "Colorado Pollinator Highway";

(2) The Colorado Department of Transportation is encouraged to implement Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management in coordination with regional planners, local governments, and adjacent landowners in order to better manage a right-of-way to promote pollinator habitat;

(3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial placement of signs to mark Interstate Highway 76 from Mile Marker 1 to Mile Marker 183 as the "Colorado Pollinator Highway"; and

(4) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners in Jefferson County and Sedgwick County for the maintenance of the signs marking the "Colorado Pollinator Highway".

*Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the People and Pollinators Action Network; Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners; Adams County Board of County Commissioners; Weld County Board of County Commissioners; Washington County Board of County Commissioners; Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners; Logan County Commissioners; Morgan County Commissioners; the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation Shailen Bhatt; and the Colorado Transportation Commission.

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Crisanta Duran  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Kevin J. Grantham  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
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Effie Ameen  
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