

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M17-0891.01 Rebecca Hausmann x2172

SJM17-003

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Garcia and Cooke,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Pettersen and Lawrence,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 17-003

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF "FIRST RESPONDER**
102 **APPRECIATION DAY".**

1 WHEREAS, First responders risk their own safety and personal
2 property in the execution of their duties to protect the public on a daily
3 basis; and

4 WHEREAS, First responders are the first line of defense for the
5 public against threats, both domestic and foreign; and

6 WHEREAS, Nationally, on average, first responders are injured
7 on the job three times more often than workers in other occupations; and

8 WHEREAS, Four out of five medics have been injured on the job,
9 more than half (52%) have been assaulted by a patient, and half (50%)

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 have been exposed to an infectious disease; and

2 WHEREAS, Most emergency medical service personnel deaths in
3 the line of duty occur in ambulance accidents; and

4 WHEREAS, Police and firefighters experience workplace injuries
5 four times more often than the national average, most often due to
6 overexertion; and

7 WHEREAS, First responder deaths constitute five percent of
8 occupational fatalities nationwide; and

9 WHEREAS, First responders experience high levels of stress and
10 many struggle with mental health issues, such as post-traumatic stress
11 disorder (PTSD), and family members of first responders often develop
12 PTSD as well; and

13 WHEREAS, Thousands of first responders have made the ultimate
14 sacrifice, including emergency medical services personnel, who have an
15 estimated fatality rate of 12.7 per 100,000 workers, more than twice the
16 national average, and many police officers who have lost their lives in the
17 line of duty, including three in Colorado in the last year; and

18 WHEREAS, First responders stand at the ready to come to the aid
19 of the citizens of the United States of America twenty-four hours a day;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, First responders are a vital part of our communities,
22 not only standing ready to deal with emergencies but also volunteering in
23 our schools and community organizations; and

24 WHEREAS, Individuals, both career and volunteer, including
25 police, fire, emergency medical services, search and rescue, and other
26 organizations in the public safety sector, come together as a collective to
27 aid the public in the event of an emergency; and

28 WHEREAS, There are over 1 million firefighters in the United
29 States, and over 750,000 of those are volunteer firefighters; and

30 WHEREAS, There are over 800,000 emergency medical services
31 personnel in the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, There are over 750,000 state and local law
2 enforcement officers around the country; and

3 WHEREAS, Colorado joins the following states in designating
4 September 27 as "First Responder Appreciation Day": Alabama, Alaska,
5 Arkansas, Arizona, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland,
6 Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North
7 Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South
8 Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin; and

9 WHEREAS, The Colorado General Assembly wishes to honor and
10 support all first responders with an annual day of appreciation; now,
11 therefore,

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

14 (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,
15 designate September 27, 2017, as "First Responder Appreciation Day";

16 (2) That we recognize and honor all first responders who put their
17 lives on the line daily to serve and protect the people of Colorado; and

18 (3) That we urge the United States Congress and President Donald
19 J. Trump to declare September 27 National First Responders Appreciation
20 Day to honor all first responders nationwide.

21 *Be It Further Resolved,* (1) That copies of this Joint Memorial be
22 sent to:

23 (a) The following organizations: Colorado Association of Chiefs
24 of Police; Colorado Professional Fire Fighters; Colorado Search and
25 Rescue Board; County Sheriffs of Colorado; Colorado State Fire Fighters
26 Association; Colorado State Fire Chiefs; Emergency Medical Services
27 Association of Colorado; I Love You Guys Foundation; Larimer
28 Emergency Telephone Authority; National EMS Memorial Service;

29 (b) The following first responders: Aircraft Rescue and
30 Firefighting Training Academy; AirLife Denver; American Medical
31 Response Aurora; American Medical Response Boulder; American
32 Medical Response Canon City; American Medical Response Denver;
33 American Medical Response Golden; American Medical Response

1 Longmont; American Medical Response Pueblo; Arapahoe County
2 Sheriff's Office; Arvada Fire Protection District; Berthoud Fire Protection
3 District; Big Elk Volunteer Fire Department; Boulder County Sheriff's
4 Office; City of Aurora Fire Department; City of Aurora Police
5 Department; City of Brush Fire Department; City of Colorado Springs
6 Police Department; City of Fort Collins Police Department; City of Lyons
7 Fire Department; City of Wheat Ridge Police Department; Colorado
8 North Central All-Hazards Emergency Management Region; Colorado
9 River Fire Rescue; Colorado Springs Fire Department; Colorado State
10 Patrol; CO-TF1, FEMA Urban Search and Rescue; Crystal Lakes
11 Volunteer Fire Department; Cunningham Fire Protection District; Denver
12 911 Emergency Communications Center; Denver Fire Department;
13 Denver Health Paramedic All-terrain Medical Unit; Denver Health
14 Paramedic Denver International Airport EMS Team; Denver Health
15 Paramedic Wildland Fire Team; Denver Police Academy; Denver Police
16 Department; Elbert County Sheriff's Office; El Paso County Sheriff's
17 Office; Emergency Department, Medical Center of Aurora; Emergency
18 Medical Services, Denver Health Medical Center; Emergency Medical
19 Services, Swedish Medical Center Denver; Erie Police Department; Estes
20 Park Volunteer Fire Department; Estes Park Police Department;
21 Evergreen Fire/Rescue; First Responder Network Authority; Foothills
22 Fire Department; Fort Morgan Fire Department; Glacier View Fire
23 Protection District; Glen Haven Area Volunteer Fire Department; Golden
24 Police and Fire Dispatch; Grand County EMS; Great Basin Type 1
25 Incident Management Team; Great Basin Type 2 Incident Management
26 Team; HealthOne Clinic Services EMS and Trauma Unit; Huerfano
27 County Fire Department; Jefferson County Critical Incident Dispatch
28 Team; Jefferson County Regional SWAT; Jefferson County Sheriff's
29 Office; Lafayette Fire Department; Lafayette Police Department;
30 Lakewood Police Department; Larimer County Sheriff's Office;
31 Livermore Fire Protection District; Louisville Fire Department; Louisville
32 Police Department; Loveland Fire Department; Mesa County Sheriff's
33 Office; MetCom 911; Mountain View Fire Department; Mountain View
34 Fire Protection District; North Fork Volunteer Fire Department;
35 O.M.E.G.A.; Park County Sheriff's Office; Poudre Canyon Fire
36 Protection District; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District - Station 1;
37 Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District - Station 2; Poudre Canyon Fire
38 Protection District - Station 3; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District -
39 Station 4; Poudre Fire Authority; Pueblo 911 Communications Center;
40 Pueblo City Fire Department; Pueblo West Fire Department; Red Feather
41 Lakes Fire Protection District; Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department;
42 South Metro Fire Rescue; Stadium Medical; Trauma Program Director,

1 Medical Center of Aurora; Wellington Fire Protection District; West
2 Douglas County Fire Protection District; West Metro Fire Protection
3 District; Westminster Police and Fire Dispatch; Wheat Ridge Fire
4 Department; Wheat Ridge Police and Fire Dispatch; Wiggins Rural Fire
5 Department; and Yarnell Fire Department;

6 (c) Tim Gregg, Executive Director of National First Responders
7 Appreciation Day; and

8 (d) President Donald J. Trump and each member of Colorado's
9 congressional delegation.