

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-1113.01 Gwynne Middleton x4340

SJR17-022

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Donovan,

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Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-022

101 **CONCERNING COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE'S 50 YEARS OF**
102 **SERVICE AND EDUCATION TO THE STATE OF COLORADO, AND, IN**
103 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, RECOGNIZING THE NOTABLE**
104 **ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE COLLEGE AND ITS**
105 **GRADUATES.**

1 WHEREAS, Colorado Mountain College (College) was founded
2 on November 2, 1965, and classes began on October 2, 1967, after local
3 visionaries and voters of six counties approved the creation of a local
4 college district because they valued the contributions postsecondary
5 options would have for their mountain communities; and

6 WHEREAS, Founders of the College worked tirelessly to establish
7 a taxing district across five initial counties, including persuading local

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 companies, civic organizations, chambers of commerce, and residents of
2 the importance of offering higher education to remote mountain locations
3 in the state; and

4 WHEREAS, Original land donors in Glenwood Springs selflessly
5 gave the College nearly 800 acres of the land from which they had
6 ranched and provided a livelihood for their families in order to advance
7 the idea of higher education and lifelong learning for their community;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, After several locations were offered, the Lake County
10 commissioners, Leadville Land and Water Company, and the Leadville
11 Sanitation District offered approximately 100 acres of land to create a
12 campus at 10,000 feet above sea level in Leadville; and

13 WHEREAS, The two original campuses were built simultaneously
14 in Leadville and Glenwood Springs, and now the College serves students
15 and communities in 11 locations in nine counties spanning 12,000 square
16 miles; and

17 WHEREAS, Over the past 50 years, the College has served an
18 estimated 500,000 students through its degree programs, community
19 instruction, corporate training, and high school options; and

20 WHEREAS, Affordability is a top priority of the College and the
21 College district, and the U.S. Department of Education ranks the College
22 as the third most affordable public four-year degree in the country with
23 in-district students only paying \$62 per credit hour; and

24 WHEREAS, Partnering with local school districts through
25 concurrent enrollment and the Mountain Futures Fund leverages public
26 and private funding to ensure that every local high school student has the
27 opportunity for a college education, including a scholarship to the
28 College; and

29 WHEREAS, Recognizing the significant number of Coloradans
30 with some college credits but no postsecondary credential, the College
31 launched "Finish What You Started" to help adults and other
32 nontraditional students complete their college degrees; and

33 WHEREAS, The college serves as a regional economic driver with
34 \$65.4 million in economic output and \$46.2 million in earnings created

1 by the College's 1,178 full-time equivalent jobs in the nine-county region;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, College graduates include firefighters, police officers,
4 first responders, Fulbright Scholars, teachers, NASA researchers, nurses,
5 Pulitzer Prize winners, welders, Olympic medalists, graphic designers,
6 and countless other invaluable leaders of the community; now, therefore,

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

9 That the Colorado General Assembly congratulates Colorado
10 Mountain College on its 50 years of service and education to the state of
11 Colorado and recognizes the notable achievements and contributions of
12 the College and its graduates.

13 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
14 to David Delaplane, founding father of Colorado Mountain College; the
15 Colorado Mountain College Board of Trustees; each campus and the
16 central administrative office in the College; and the members of the
17 Colorado Congressional delegation.