

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

REVISED

LLS NO. R18-0906.01 Joel Moore x4497

HJR18-1008

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lee and Sias,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hill and Donovan,

House Committees

Senate Committees

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 18-1008

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNIZING THE POSITIVE IMPACTS OF ADAPTIVE**
102 **SPORTS PROGRAMS ON VETERANS IN COLORADO.**

1 WHEREAS, Approximately 1,330,645 service members have been
2 wounded in our nation's conflicts since World War I; and

3 WHEREAS, The brave men and women who serve our country
4 through the military often place their lives at great risk to ensure our
5 continued freedom as United States citizens; and

6 WHEREAS, Sadly, some of these brave service members of the
7 United States armed forces are permanently injured while in service and
8 must undergo extensive rehabilitation in order to rebuild their lives,
9 regain independence, and maximize their quality of life; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

SENATE
Final Reading
January 30, 2018

HOUSE
Final Reading
January 26, 2018

1 WHEREAS, More than 1.1 million veterans live with a
2 service-connected disability in the United States, with more than 76,000
3 of those veterans residing here in Colorado; and

4 WHEREAS, More than 56.7 million individuals in the United
5 States live with a disability, with more than 458,800 of those individuals
6 residing in Colorado; and

7 WHEREAS, Recreational therapy and adaptive sports have been
8 proven to improve physical and mental health, increase independence,
9 and combat dependence on opioids, antidepressants, sleeping aids, and
10 many forms of self-medication; and

11 WHEREAS, The diverse and awe-inspiring geography of
12 Colorado allows for varied and unique opportunities for recreational
13 therapy and adaptive sports, including but not limited to camping, outdoor
14 climbing, wheelchair rugby, alpine skiing, wheelchair lacrosse, fishing,
15 mountain biking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, wheelchair
16 basketball, hunting, and road biking; and

17 WHEREAS, The efforts to adapt athletic and recreational activities
18 to those living with disabilities have led to the innovation, creation, and
19 production of adaptive sports equipment, much of that equipment
20 produced by leaders in the industry who are based here in Colorado; and

21 WHEREAS, Many organizations contribute to the adaptive sports
22 programs for the state, including A1 Scuba in partnership with WAVES
23 Project; Adaptive Adventures; Adaptive Sports Association Durango;
24 Adaptive Sports Center Crested Butte; Breckenridge Outdoor Education
25 Center; Challenge Aspen Military Opportunities; Colorado Adaptive
26 Sports Foundation; Disabled Sports USA; Foresight Ski Guides;
27 Harlequin Wheel Chair Rugby; Ignite Adaptive Sports; National Sports
28 Center for the Disabled; Paradox Sports; Project Healing Waters; Rolling
29 Mammoth Wheel Chair Lacrosse; Ski for Light; Sled Hockey; Steamboat
30 Adaptive Recreational Sports; Team Semper Fi & Team America's Fund;
31 Telluride Adaptive Sports Program; Vail Veterans Program; and
32 Wilderness on Wheels.

33 WHEREAS, Adaptive sports programs in Colorado facilitate more
34 than 1,173 veteran-specific camps or events, serving more than 1,311
35 disabled veterans and 11,764 in the disabled community at large; and

1 WHEREAS, Adaptive sports programs utilize the good will
2 abundant in Colorado's citizens and create the opportunity for more than
3 2,760 volunteers to serve nearly 103,991 hours annually; and

4 WHEREAS, While the positive social contributions of adaptive
5 sports programs are apparent, these organizations are also an economic
6 factor in the state of Colorado, with their combined annual budgets
7 totaling more than \$11.9 million; now, therefore,

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

10 That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

11 (1) Recognize the positive social and economic impact that
12 adaptive sports programs have in the state of Colorado;

13 (2) Commend the honorable work that adaptive sports programs
14 do in the service of our disabled veterans and the disabled community at
15 large; and

16 (3) Encourage our fellow Coloradans to support the work and
17 foster the continued growth of adaptive sports programs in the Centennial
18 State.

19 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
20 to the Mountain States Chapter, Paralyzed Veterans of America; CW2
21 (Ret) David Ortiz, Program Director, Veterans Of Foreign Wars Post 1;
22 United Veterans Committee of Colorado; A1 Scuba; Adaptive
23 Adventures; Adaptive Sports Association Durango; Adaptive Sports
24 Center Crested Butte; Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center; Challenge
25 Aspen Military Opportunities; Colorado Adaptive Sports Foundation;
26 Disabled Sports USA; Foresight Ski Guides; Harlequin Wheel Chair
27 Rugby; Ignite Adaptive Sports; National Sports Center for the Disabled;
28 Paradox Sports; Project Healing Waters; Rolling Mammoth Wheel Chair
29 Lacrosse; Ski for Light; Sled Hockey; Steamboat Adaptive Recreational
30 Sports; Team Semper Fi & Team America's Fund; Telluride Adaptive
31 Sports Program; Vail Veterans Program; and Wilderness on Wheels.