

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R24-0750.01 Kitty Verboom x4755

**HJR24-1003**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 24-1003**

101      **CONCERNING DESIGNATION OF THE PORTION OF UNITED STATES**  
102            **HIGHWAY 36 IN BOULDER COUNTY FROM MILE MARKER 32 TO**  
103            **MILE MARKER 37 AS THE "DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**  
104            **MEMORIAL HIGHWAY" BY THE PLACEMENT OF SIGNS IN EACH**  
105            **DIRECTION OF TRAVEL WHERE THE DESIGNATED PORTION OF**  
106            **THE HIGHWAY BEGINS.**

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1            WHEREAS, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., one of  
2            America's most compelling and effective civil rights leaders, was born on  
3            January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia; and

4            WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. King knew at an early age that he wanted to  
5            help Black Americans, the poor, and the needy gain their well-deserved  
6            place in society in pursuit of freedom, liberty, and justice; and

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

1           WHEREAS, At the beginning of the civil rights era, with Rosa  
2 Parks' refusal to give up her seat to a white man in 1955 leading to the  
3 Montgomery bus boycott, Rev. Dr. King introduced a new movement of  
4 nonviolence to fight against the ill-treatment of Black people; and

5           WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. King and the Southern Christian Leadership  
6 Conference he led began a massive direct action campaign in  
7 Birmingham, Alabama to attack the city's system of segregation; and

8           WHEREAS, When hundreds of Black children who marched as  
9 freedom fighters were arrested, blasted with high-pressure hoses, clubbed  
10 by police officers, and attacked by police dogs, coverage of these events  
11 appeared on television and in newspapers, and triggered international  
12 outrage; and

13           WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. King became the most anticipated speaker  
14 at the March on Washington in 1963, delivering his signature "I Have a  
15 Dream" speech, which included the line, "Let freedom ring from the  
16 snow-capped Rockies of Colorado"; and

17           WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. King used his revolutionary tactic of  
18 nonviolence to press for justice for all, systematically challenging the  
19 unjust segregation laws that had excluded so many people for hundreds  
20 of years, and his adherence to a nonviolent path toward justice was  
21 instrumental in the signing of the "Civil Rights Act of 1964"; and

22           WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. King continuously led our country towards  
23 a righteous and democratic society, bringing about the "Voting Rights Act  
24 of 1965", and was recognized and honored as the youngest person ever  
25 to receive the Nobel Peace Prize; and

26           WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. King highly valued courage, truth,  
27 compassion, dignity, humility, and service to others, envisioning the  
28 "Beloved Community" in which we all belong and live in freedom, and  
29 fought for social equity and belonging, peace, and freedom from  
30 prejudice; and

31           WHEREAS, At 6:05 P.M. on Thursday, April 4, 1968, Rev. Dr.  
32 King was shot and killed while standing on a balcony outside his second  
33 floor room at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, but his dream  
34 lives inside each and every one of us who desires to carry the torch of

1 justice; and

2 WHEREAS, The NAACP Boulder County Branch annually honors  
3 the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. King during this federal and state holiday;  
4 now, therefore,

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

8 (1) That the portion of United States Highway 36 in Boulder  
9 County from Mile Marker 32 to Mile Marker 37 be designated as the "Dr.  
10 Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Highway" by the placement of signs in  
11 each direction of travel where the designated portion of the highway  
12 begins.

13 (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept  
14 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial  
15 placement of signs to mark United States Highway 36 in Boulder County  
16 at southbound Mile Marker 32 and northbound Mile Marker 37 as the  
17 "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Highway".

18 (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore  
19 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for  
20 Boulder County for the maintenance of the signs marking the "Dr. Martin  
21 Luther King Jr. Memorial Highway".

22 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
23 to the NAACP Boulder County Branch, the City of Boulder, and the  
24 Boulder County Commissioners.