

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R26-0964.01 Faith Marcovecchio x4331

SJR26-018

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Jodeh,

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Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-018

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNIZING THE CELEBRATION OF NOWRUZ, AND, IN**
102 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE**
103 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS OF THE IRANIAN**
104 **PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE ONGOING STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY**
105 **EMBODIED IN THE WOMEN, LIFE, FREEDOM MOVEMENT.**

1 WHEREAS, Nowruz, meaning "new day", is the traditional
2 Iranian New Year celebrated on the spring equinox and marks the
3 beginning of the year on the Persian calendar, a holiday observed for
4 more than 3,000 years by hundreds of millions of people across Iran,
5 Central Asia, the Middle East, and the diaspora of Middle Eastern
6 communities around the world; and

7 WHEREAS, Iranian Americans and members of the Iranian

*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 diaspora, including many Coloradans, celebrate Nowruz and contribute
2 greatly to the cultural, economic, and civic life of communities across the
3 United States and the state of Colorado; and

4 WHEREAS, Nowruz is a celebration of renewal, hope, and the
5 rebirth of nature, symbolizing the promise that each new year can bring
6 greater peace, prosperity, and justice; and

7 WHEREAS, The people of Iran continue to face profound
8 challenges to their fundamental civil and human rights, including
9 restrictions on freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, freedom of
10 religion, and equality under the law; and

11 WHEREAS, The Women, Life, Freedom movement that began in
12 September 2022 has become a global call for gender equality, human
13 dignity, and fundamental civil rights, highlighting long-standing
14 discrimination against women and girls in Iran--including legal inequality
15 and restrictions on personal freedom--and reflecting the extraordinary
16 courage of Iranian women and girls who demand equality and bodily
17 autonomy; and

18 WHEREAS, Students, journalists, activists, workers, and ordinary
19 citizens across Iran have risked their safety and their lives in peaceful
20 demonstrations, demanding democratic freedoms, bodily autonomy, and
21 basic civil rights even as escalating conflict and violence in the region
22 have placed millions of civilians at risk and caused devastating harm to
23 families and communities; and

24 WHEREAS, The Colorado General Assembly recognizes Nowruz
25 as a celebration of renewal, resilience, and hope for Middle Eastern
26 communities across Colorado and the world; now, therefore,

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

29 That the Colorado General Assembly:

30 (1) Recognizes the celebration of Nowruz and extends its warmest
31 wishes for a year of renewal, hope, and peace to Iranian communities in
32 Colorado and around the world;

33 (2) Affirms its solidarity with the Iranian people in their ongoing

1 struggle for fundamental civil rights, democratic freedoms, and equality
2 under the law;

3 (3) Recognizes the courage and leadership of Iranian women and
4 girls and the global call for dignity embodied in the words "Women, Life,
5 Freedom";

6 (4) Mourns the lives of civilians, especially children, lost to
7 violence and war, calling for the protection of civilians, schools, and
8 essential community institutions; and

9 (5) Expresses its hope that the spirit of Nowruz--a new day--will
10 bring a future in which all people in Iran can live with equality, freedom,
11 justice, and the full protection of their civil and human rights.