

**Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R16-0389.01 Owen Colling x4338

**HJR16-1008**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-1008**

101      **CONCERNING HONORING THE LIFE OF MAHATMA GANDHI.**

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1            WHEREAS, Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi--later known as  
2 Mahatma, which means "great soul"--was born October 2, 1869, in  
3 Porbandar, located in the present-day Indian state of Gujarat; and

4            WHEREAS, As a young man, Gandhi went to London to study  
5 law at the Inner Temple and returned to India in 1891, and he set up a law  
6 practice in Bombay; and

7            WHEREAS, In 1893, Gandhi accepted a job that took him to  
8 South Africa, where he spent the next twenty years; and

9            WHEREAS, Not long after arriving in South Africa, Gandhi was  
10 traveling by train with a first-class ticket but was asked to move to  
11 third-class because he was Indian. When he refused, he was thrown off

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 the train; and

2 WHEREAS, Gandhi would later describe the train incident as a  
3 turning point when he decided to fight injustice and defend his rights as  
4 an Indian, and he soon began developing and practicing the concept of  
5 satyagraha, or passive resistance; and

6 WHEREAS, Gandhi spent the next twenty years in South Africa  
7 fighting racial segregation, including practicing noncooperation with  
8 relevant authorities in the wake of required registration for all Indians;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Upon his return to India, Gandhi spread his message  
11 of nonviolent civil disobedience through noncooperation and peaceful  
12 protests aimed at achieving independence from the British; and

13 WHEREAS, One of Gandhi's most famous protests began on  
14 March 12, 1930, when he led a 241-mile march to the Arabian Sea in  
15 response to a British tax on salt, which became known as the Salt March;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Over the years, Gandhi led and encouraged acts of  
18 peaceful, passive resistance, including hunger strikes, labor strikes,  
19 nonviolent marches, and other forms of civil disobedience; and

20 WHEREAS, Besides independence from British rule, Gandhi  
21 sought to overcome the Hindu-Muslim disunity in India and fought  
22 against the Hindu tradition of the caste system that led to discrimination  
23 against those born to the lowest social class; and

24 WHEREAS, Gandhi was jailed many times as a result of his  
25 protests, but he always spoke for peace and forgiveness and believed in  
26 a single unified India; and

27 WHEREAS, India was granted its independence from Britain in  
28 1947, though internal tensions remained; and

29 WHEREAS, On January 30, 1948, Gandhi was assassinated while  
30 on his way to a prayer meeting; and

31 WHEREAS, Gandhi left behind a legacy of peace, nonviolence,  
32 and acceptance of others in his efforts for justice, unity, and freedom;

1 now, therefore,

2 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventieth*  
3 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

4 That we honor the life of Mahatma Gandhi, who dedicated his life  
5 to fighting injustices with nonviolence and peaceful resistance.

6 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
7 to the Honorable Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi; the  
8 Honorable Indian Ambassador to the United States, Mr. Arun Singh; the  
9 Honorable Consul General of India in Houston, Mr. P. Harish; Mr. Manu  
10 Raval of the Gandhi Group of Colorado; and Dr. Ved Nanda, Hindu  
11 Swayamsevak Sangh.