

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

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R16-0905.01 Ashley Zimmerman x2291

**HR16-1005**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Klingenschmitt,**

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**House Committees**

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION 16-1005**

101      **CONCERNING THE OFFICIAL MOTTO OF THE STATE OF COLORADO,**  
102                    **AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, DESIGNATING MARCH 15,**  
103                    **2016, AS "STATE MOTTO DAY".**

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1            WHEREAS, The First Territorial Assembly of Colorado on  
2 November 6, 1861, adopted the territorial seal by joint resolution  
3 containing the phrase "Nil Sine Numine" as the territorial motto; and

4            WHEREAS, "Nil Sine Numine" has been translated as "Nothing  
5 Without Providence", "Nothing Without the Diety", "Nothing Without  
6 Divine Will", and in the early mining days of the state, even "Nothing  
7 Without a New Mine"; and

8            WHEREAS, On March 15, 1877, the territorial seal and motto  
9 were adopted as the Colorado state seal and motto by the First General  
10 Assembly of our state; and

11            WHEREAS, Virgil's epic Aeneid contains the phrase "Non Haec  
12 Sine Numine Devum Eveniunt", meaning "This Cannot Happen Without  
13 the Power", which is thought to have inspired the motto of the State of  
14 Colorado; and

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           WHEREAS, The motto appeared when Colorado's first Territorial  
2 Governor William Gilpin asked the Secretary of the Territory L.C. Weld  
3 for a suitable motto for the state seal; and

4           WHEREAS, According to legend, Weld said, "Well, Governor,  
5 what would you suggest?"; and

6           WHEREAS, Governor William Gilpin is said to have paused for  
7 a moment and then responded, "Nil Sine Numine"; and

8           WHEREAS, The motto is inscribed on the Great Seal of the State  
9 of Colorado by law; now, therefore,

10           *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventieth*  
11 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

12           (1) That we, the House of Representatives of the Colorado  
13 General Assembly declare March 15, 2016, as "State Motto Day" and we  
14 honor the intent of the Colorado founders who declared "Nil Sine  
15 Numine" as our state motto; and

16           (2) That, in consultation with Leadership in the House of  
17 Representatives, the words of the Colorado State Motto, "Nil Sine  
18 Numine" be displayed in a temporary, removable banner for one day only,  
19 on March 15, 2016, on the west wall of the House chamber, behind the  
20 Speaker's podium, below the clock; and

21           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to  
22 Governor John Hickenlooper, the Colorado State Senate, and the Chief  
23 Justice of the Colorado Supreme Court, Nancy E. Rice.