



## HOUSE RESOLUTION 16-1005

**BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Klingenschmitt, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Buck, Buckner, Carver, Conti, Coram, Court, Danielson, DelGrosso, Dore, Everett, Fields, Foote, Ginal, Humphrey, Joshi, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lontine, Lundeen, McCann, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Primavera, Priola, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Roupe, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Sias, Thurlow, Van Winkle, Vigil, Willett, Williams, Wilson, Windholz, Winter, Wist, Young, Hullinghorst.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Dickey Lee Hullinghorst  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES