

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R18-1129.02 Richard Sweetman x4333

SR18-004

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Jahn and Crowder,

Senate Committees

SENATE RESOLUTION 18-004

101 **CONCERNING ENCOURAGING THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO**
102 **PROGRAM TO ASSIST ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE OUTDOOR**
103 **RESTORATION AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES TO MILITARY**
104 **VETERANS.**

1 WHEREAS, The members of the Colorado General Assembly and
2 the other people of Colorado are deeply grateful to the men and women
3 who are veterans of the United States armed forces for their great courage
4 and selflessness in defense of our nation's interests and security; and

5 WHEREAS, After their discharge from service, many veterans
6 require treatment for physical disabilities and mental health issues that are
7 a result of such veterans' service; and

8 WHEREAS, Participation in outdoor restoration and recreational

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

1 activities is one of the best ways to help restore the health and well-being
2 of such veterans; and

3 WHEREAS, Our great state of Colorado affords countless
4 opportunities for veterans and other residents to enjoy outdoor restoration
5 and recreational activities; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1992, the residents of Colorado elected to create
7 within the state constitution the Great Outdoors Colorado Program to
8 preserve, protect, enhance, and manage the state's wildlife, park, river,
9 trail, and open-space heritage; and

10 WHEREAS, The Great Outdoors Colorado Program includes
11 wildlife program grants; outdoor recreation program grants; a program to
12 identify, acquire, and manage unique open space and natural areas of
13 statewide significance; and a program for grants to match local
14 investments to acquire, develop, and manage open space, parks, and
15 environmental education facilities; and

16 WHEREAS, The Great Outdoors Colorado Program has existing
17 partnerships with the Colorado Youth Corps Association and the
18 Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife to provide veterans an
19 opportunity to participate in conservation corps programs; and

20 WHEREAS, Such conservation corps programs allow veterans to
21 remain in service to their communities and to their country; provide
22 veterans valuable vocational training, including wildland firefighting and
23 chainsaw certifications; and offer post-service job-placement assistance
24 to veterans to help them leverage their experience and certifications into
25 economic independence; and

26 WHEREAS, It is clear that the awarding of competitive grants to
27 organizations that provide veterans the opportunity to participate in
28 outdoor restoration and recreational activities is a permissible expenditure
29 from the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund through its existing
30 partners, including the Colorado Youth Corps Association, the Colorado
31 Division of Parks and Wildlife, local governments, and land conservation
32 organizations; now, therefore,

33 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-first General Assembly*
34 *of the State of Colorado:*

1 That the Great Outdoors Colorado Program is encouraged to
2 identify and provide assistance to organizations that provide opportunities
3 for veterans to participate in outdoor restoration and recreational
4 activities; and

5 That individuals and organizations that want to support veterans
6 are encouraged to do so through gifts, grants, and donations to Great
7 Outdoors Colorado, which may use such gifts, grants, and donations to
8 fund competitive grant programs and partnerships that provide veterans
9 the opportunity to participate in outdoor restoration and recreational
10 activities.

11 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to
12 Governor John Hickenlooper, Senate President Kevin Grantham, Great
13 Outdoors Colorado, the Colorado Youth Corps Association, the Colorado
14 Division of Parks and Wildlife, Team Rubicon, Colorado Firecamp,
15 Volunteers of America's Back Home Supportive Services for Veterans
16 Families program, the Mt. Carmel Veterans Service Center, the Green
17 Beret Association, and the United Veterans Committee of Colorado.