

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R22-0407.01 Olivia Nesselroade x2670

SJR22-003

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Sonnenberg and Coram,

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Pelton,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 22-003

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF COLORADO 4-H DAY.**

1 WHEREAS, The Colorado 4-H Youth Development program is
2 founded on the notion that youth are a vital resource for ensuring a better
3 tomorrow, and assisting youth as they prepare for the future is the 4-H
4 program's central mission; and

5 WHEREAS, The Colorado 4-H program is an integral part of
6 Colorado State University Extension and is fundamental to the land-grant
7 university mission; and

8 WHEREAS, More than 110,000 Colorado youth, with the
9 guidance of more than 10,000 adult and youth volunteer leaders, currently
10 contribute to their communities and gain practical experience in
11 workforce preparation and career exploration through 4-H projects and
12 activities; and

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 WHEREAS, 4-H equips and empowers young people with
2 essential life skills like confidence, courage, resilience, and curiosity and
3 prepares them for life today and tomorrow; and

4 WHEREAS, 4-H serves every county and parish in America
5 through a network of 100 land-grant universities and the Cooperative
6 Extension System with 3,000 county offices nationwide; and

7 WHEREAS, The 4-H organization is led by a unique
8 public-private partnership that includes the National 4-H Council and the
9 National Institute of Food and Agriculture within the United States
10 Department of Agriculture; and

11 WHEREAS, Colorado 4-H returns an estimated \$45 million
12 annually to the Colorado economy, plus \$31 million in added value
13 through volunteer time contributions, resulting in a ten-fold return on
14 investment based on the cost to conduct the program; and

15 WHEREAS, A decade-long longitudinal study of positive youth
16 development showed that, compared to their peers, youth involved in 4-H
17 programs are: Nearly twice as likely to be civically active (grades 8-12);
18 nearly twice as likely to make healthier choices (grade 7); nearly twice as
19 likely to participate in science, engineering, and computer technology
20 programs during time outside of school (grades 10-12); and nearly 4 times
21 more likely to make contributions to their communities (grades 7-12); and

22 WHEREAS, Participation in 4-H in Colorado is open to youth
23 from the ages of 5 to 19 from all economic, social, and cultural
24 backgrounds; now, therefore,

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

28 (1) That the General Assembly:

29 (a) Salutes the Colorado 4-H program in its efforts to prepare
30 Colorado's youth for the future by providing a wealth of opportunities for
31 young people to acquire vital life skills, such as decision-making,
32 leadership, and communication skills, in a hands-on, friendly learning
33 environment;

1 (b) Commends Colorado State University Extension for its work
2 in supporting the mission of the Colorado 4-H program;

3 (c) Recognizes the invaluable contribution of the thousands of
4 adult volunteers whose efforts enhance the 4-H experience for Colorado
5 youth; and

6 (d) Encourages young people in Colorado to get a head start on
7 life by participating in 4-H activities; and

8 (2) That the General Assembly hereby declares Monday, January
9 31, 2022, to be "Colorado 4-H Day" in recognition of the 4-H program's
10 efforts on behalf of Colorado's youth.