

First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 25-0670.01 Caroline Martin x5902

HOUSE BILL 25-1091

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Phillips,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF THE AGARICUS JULIUS MUSHROOM
102 AS THE STATE MUSHROOM.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill designates the Agaricus julius mushroom, commonly known as the Emperor mushroom, as the state mushroom of the state of Colorado.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

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

1 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
2 finds and declares that:

3 (a) Mushrooms and fungi play an important role in maintaining
4 the health of forests and ecosystems.

5 (b) *Agaricus julius* is an edible mushroom found in the Rocky
6 Mountains of Colorado.

7 (c) After mistaking *Agaricus julius* for its close relative *Agaricus*
8 *augustus*, or "The Prince mushroom," scientists first identified *Agaricus*
9 *julius* as a distinct species and described it as such in Colorado in 2016.
10 Therefore, *Agaricus julius* is referred to as "The Emperor formerly known
11 as Prince."

12 (d) *Agaricus julius* is a saprobic mushroom, meaning it
13 decomposes dead or decaying organic material, thereby recycling
14 nutrients and reducing wildfire fuel loads.

15 (e) *Agaricus julius* appears in high-elevation spruce-fir forests and
16 has a large cap adorned with brown scales and an odor reminiscent of
17 almonds.

18 (f) The inclusion of a symbol from the kingdom of fungi will help
19 promote and celebrate the importance of fungi and mushrooms in
20 Colorado.

21 (2) It is therefore the intent of the general assembly that the
22 *Agaricus julius* mushroom be added to the array of symbols that
23 demonstrate our state character and pride.

24 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 24-80-916 as
25 follows:

26 **24-80-916. State mushroom.** THE AGARICUS JULIUS MUSHROOM,
27 COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE EMPEROR MUSHROOM, IS MADE AND

1 DECLARED TO BE THE STATE MUSHROOM OF THE STATE OF COLORADO.

2 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
3 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
4 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
5 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
6 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
7 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
8 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
9 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
10 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.