

CHAPTER 87

GOVERNMENT - STATE

SENATE BILL 96-122

BY SENATORS Weddig, Rupert, Alexander, Casey, Feeley, Martinez, Matsunaka, Pascoe, Perlmutter, L. Powers, Rizzuto, Tanner, Thiebaut, and Hopper;

also REPRESENTATIVES Armstrong, Acquafresca, Congrove, Epps, Gordon, Hagedorn, Kaufman, Keller, Kerns, Knox, Lamm, McElhany, Reeves, Saliman, Tool, Clarke, Lyle, Mace, and Prinster.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF THE COLORADO HAIRSTREAK, A BUTTERFLY, AS THE STATE INSECT.

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

SECTION 1. Legislative declaration. (1) The general assembly hereby inds and declares that:

(a) Insects outnumber all other species of plants and animals combined and play a vital role in the daily lives and welfare of people and the environment;

(b) Insects verify the importance of a healthy ecosystem and the value of conserving our natural wildlife heritage;

(c) Colorado is home to one of the most diverse populations of butterflies in the United States;

(d) The Colorado hairstreak, a butterfly, is native to Colorado, having a relatively narrow range of habitat, and is aesthetically appealing in color and design;

(e) The Colorado hairstreak is not injurious to agriculture, and it is not endangered.

(f) The Colorado hairstreak is associated with gambel oak populations on both the eastern and western slopes of the state;

(g) The Colorado hairstreak enjoys the overwhelming support of more than one

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

hundred entomologists surveyed in Colorado as their first choice for designation as the state insect;

(h) The Colorado hairstreak has inspired school children in Colorado to research and promote its designation as the state insect; and

(i) Colorado, unlike thirty-five other states, has not yet designated a state insect.

(2) It is therefore the intent of the general assembly that the Colorado hairstreak be added to the array of symbols that demonstrate our state character and pride.

SECTION 2. Part 9 of article 80 of title 24, Colorado Revised Statutes, 1988 Repl. Vol., as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to read:

24-80-913. State insect. THE COLORADO HAIRSTREAK (HYPAUROTIS CRYALUS), A BUTTERFLY, IS HEREBY MADE AND DECLARED TO BE THE STATE INSECT OF THE STATE OF COLORADO.

SECTION 3. Effective date. This act shall take effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly that is allowed for submitting a referendum petition pursuant to article V, section 1 (3) of the state constitution; except that, if a referendum petition is filed against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part, if approved by the people, shall take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by proclamation of the governor.

Approved: April 17, 1996

Editor's note: This act was passed without a safety clause. See section 3 for the possible effective dates.