

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-1179.01 Darren Thornberry x4143

SJR17-032

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kerr, Court, Guzman, Jahn, Merrifield, Williams A.

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Danielson,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-032

101 **CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF COLORADO WORKERS WHO DIED**
102 **ON THE JOB, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
103 **COMMEMORATING THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF**
104 **WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY ON APRIL 28, 2017.**

1 WHEREAS, On April 28, 1971, the United States created the
2 Occupational Safety and Health Administration in the Department of
3 Labor, an agency created for the sole purpose of protecting workers from
4 injury and death; aptly, April 28 has been observed in the United States
5 as Workers' Memorial Day; and

6 WHEREAS, Since 1989, Workers' Memorial Day has been
7 recognized throughout Colorado, throughout the nation, and around the
8 world as a day to mourn and show reverence for those who have perished
9 as a result of work-related accidents; and

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

1 WHEREAS, Annually in Colorado, as many as 100 women's and
2 men's lives are claimed by occupational illnesses and traumatic injuries
3 sustained on the job, with approximately half of these tragic incidents
4 involving a person under 45 years old; and

5 WHEREAS, The sudden, unexpected, and at times violent nature
6 of these events leaves behind a wake of immense pain and suffering for
7 the families, friends, and colleagues of the fallen; and

8 WHEREAS, The emotional impact and financial toll of extreme
9 economic hardship due to associated medical and funeral costs, a loss of
10 household income, and any unpaid debts leave an indelible mark upon
11 those left behind; and

12 WHEREAS, While Workers' Memorial Day is a paramount
13 opportunity to mourn such loss, it is not merely a day to grieve loved ones
14 that have fallen victim to occupational hazards, but also a day to reflect
15 on the often preventable nature of these injuries, illnesses, diseases, and
16 fatalities; and

17 WHEREAS, Workers' Memorial Day is a chance for business,
18 labor, and government to reflect on how continued cooperation and
19 diligent prevention efforts can significantly reduce workplace
20 catastrophes; and

21 WHEREAS, Observing Workers' Memorial Day gives all
22 Coloradans an opportunity to join together to pay our respects to the
23 fallen and to rededicate ourselves to the mission of safe and healthy work
24 environments for all in the face of new technological advancements and
25 the changing dynamics of the American workplace; now, therefore,

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

28 (1) That we observe Workers' Memorial Day as a day to
29 remember those who have died from occupational illnesses and accidents
30 and those who have suffered as a result; and

31 (2) That we commemorate the 28th anniversary of Workers'
32 Memorial Day on April 28, 2017.

1 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
2 to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, the Occupational
3 Safety and Health Administration, the AFL-CIO, the United States
4 Department of Labor, the U.S. House Committee on Education and the
5 Workforce, and the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor,
6 and Pensions.