



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 25-007

BY SENATOR(S) Bridges and Kirkmeyer, Amabile, Baisley, Ball, Bright, Carson, Catlin, Danielson, Daugherty, Exum, Gonzales J., Jodeh, Kipp, Kolker, Liston, Lundeen, Marchman, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Rich, Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Snyder, Sullivan, Weissman, Winter F., Coleman; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Sirota and Taggart, Bird, Bacon, Barron, Boesenecker, Bottoms, Brooks, Brown, Caldwell, Camacho, Clifford, DeGraaf, Duran, English, Espenoza, Froelich, Garcia, Garcia Sander, Gilchrist, Gonzalez R., Hamrick, Hartsook, Jackson, Johnson, Joseph, Keltie, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Mabrey, Marshall, Martinez, Mauro, McCormick, Paschal, Phillips, Pugliese, Ricks, Rutinel, Rydin, Smith, Soper, Stewart K., Stewart R., Story, Suckla, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Winter T., Woodrow, McCluskie.

CONCERNING PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 14 AS "COLORADO READ TO YOUR CHILD DAY".

WHEREAS, The most important activity for setting the foundation for future literacy success is reading aloud to children; and

WHEREAS, Strong literacy skills are essential for the development and growth of a community and our nation, and the ability to read by third grade is critical to a child's ability to learn in the future; and

WHEREAS, Children who struggle with literacy are more likely to eventually drop out of school without earning their high school diploma, have poor health, and struggle to acquire a living wage as an adult; and

WHEREAS, A child's early years play a pivotal role in literacy, as 90% of a child's brain has developed by age five, and skills learned between birth and age five predict literacy in later years; and

WHEREAS, Children who struggle with literacy in kindergarten through third grade are unlikely to catch up to their peers; and

WHEREAS, When children are read to aloud from birth, they are exposed to significantly more words in their early years, improving their vocabulary, comprehension and literacy skills, and increasing overall brain development; and

WHEREAS, Children who experience this early exposure to books and have access to home libraries develop stronger language skills by the time they start school and are more likely to develop a lasting interest in reading and learning; and

WHEREAS, When caregivers or loved ones read to children regularly, they build nurturing bonds that are vital for the child's cognitive and social-emotional health. Reading together provides positive attention from caring adults and creates a sense of security, while reducing stress and the negative impacts of adverse childhood experiences; and

WHEREAS, More than 30 years of research demonstrates that reading aloud to a child accelerates development and boosts overall kindergarten readiness. Evidence also indicates that when children enter school with the developmental skills and foundation to succeed, the results of this early intervention last a lifetime; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That we, the members of the General Assembly, declare the state's commitment to birth-to-age-five early literacy by acknowledging February 14, 2025, as "Colorado Read to Your Child Day" in alignment with "National Read to Your Child Day".

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to

the Reach Out and Read Colorado and Imagination Library of Colorado organizations.

James Rashad Coleman Sr.
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Julie McCluskie
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Esther van Mourik
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

Vanessa Reilly
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
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