

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

REREVISED

*This Version Includes All Amendments
Adopted in the Second House*

LLS NO. 16-0380.01 Esther van Mourik x4215

SENATE BILL 16-021

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Donovan, Aguilar, Guzman, Heath, Hodge, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Merrifield, Newell, Steadman, Todd

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Mitsch Bush and Becker K.

Senate Committees
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

House Committees
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

HOUSE
3rd Reading Unamended
April 25, 2016

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF THE THIRD SATURDAY IN MAY AS A**
102 **STATE HOLIDAY, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH,**
103 **DESIGNATING THE THIRD SATURDAY IN MAY AS "PUBLIC LANDS**
104 **DAY".**

HOUSE
Amended 2nd Reading
April 22, 2016

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://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

SENATE
3rd Reading Unamended
March 2, 2016

The bill designates the fourth Monday in March as "Public Lands Day" to recognize the significant contributions that national public lands within Colorado make to wildlife, recreation, the economy, and to

SENATE
Amended 2nd Reading
March 1, 2016

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.

Coloradans' quality of life.

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

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

4 (a) Colorado contains a variety of national, state, and local public
5 lands, including national parks, national forests, wildlife refuges,
6 monuments, wilderness areas, and other public lands;

7 (b) Colorado's public lands reflect many of our most noble
8 democratic ideals, because they are open and accessible to everyone, no
9 matter how rich or poor;

10 (c) Colorado's public lands are defining features of the state and
11 are a foundation for our quality of life by supporting the vitality of our
12 communities, as well as representing Colorado's common heritage, fossils
13 marking where dinosaurs roamed, ancient ruins and petroglyphs dotting
14 the canyons, and historic mining towns nestled in steep-sided valleys;

15 (d) Colorado's public lands feature an amazingly diverse range of
16 landscapes, from the snow-capped peaks of the Rocky Mountains down
17 to rushing rivers, red rock canyons to grassy plains, grasslands, and
18 tree-lined mountain valleys;

19 (e) Colorado's public lands provide many benefits to our residents
20 and support a wide variety of activities, from recreational pursuits, such
21 as hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, and rafting, to
22 natural resource development;

23 (f) Colorado's public lands have a substantial impact on economic
24 development and jobs through mineral extraction, timber sales, ranching,
25 tourism, and the outdoor recreation industry;

3 (h) Coloradans will benefit when the three levels of government
4 in the federal, state, and local government systems are working in greater
5 harmony and in partnership, which acknowledges the unique capacity of
6 local law enforcement to positively influence matters of public safety, to
7 serve diverse public needs for access and utilization of public lands;

15 (j) Coloradans have demonstrated for over a century the ability to
16 balance the values of preservation, conservation, and economic
17 productivity, clearly indicating that these values are not in conflict; and

18 (k) Early and consistent cooperative and collaborative
19 involvement of local governments in federal land management
20 decision-making processes can improve federal land management
21 outcomes, reduce conflict, and save state, local, and federal resources;
22 and

23 (l) Local citizens and state agencies should be consulted and relied
24 upon to lead efforts to protect endangered species.

25 (2) The general assembly further finds and declares that:

26 (a) It is imperative to encourage effective cooperative and
27 collaborative engagement among counties, municipalities, the state, and

1 federal land management agencies; and

2 (b) It is appropriate for the state to publicly observe and pay
3 tribute to the importance of Colorado's public lands by observing Public
4 Lands Day on the third Saturday in May in each year.

5 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 24-11-113** as
6 follows:

7 **24-11-113. Public lands day.** (1) THE THIRD SATURDAY IN MAY
8 IN EACH YEAR IS KNOWN AS "PUBLIC LANDS DAY", AND APPROPRIATE
9 OBSERVANCE MAY BE HELD BY THE PUBLIC AND IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
10 OF THE STATE IN TRIBUTE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC LANDS IN THE
11 STATE.

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13 (2) ANNUALLY THE GOVERNOR SHALL ISSUE A PROCLAMATION
14 CALLING FOR THE CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC LANDS DAY.

15 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
16 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
17 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
18 10, 2016, if adjournment sine die is on May 11, 2016); except that, if a
19 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
20 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
21 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
22 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
23 November 2016 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
24 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.