



SENATE RESOLUTION 19-004

BY SENATOR(S) Garcia and Cooke, Bridges, Court, Crowder, Danielson, Donovan, Fenberg, Fields, Foote, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hill, Hisey, Holbert, Lee, Lundein, Marble, Moreno, Pettersen, Priola, Rankin, Rodriguez, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Story, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Winter, Woodward, Zenzinger.

CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 27 AS
"FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION DAY" IN COLORADO.

WHEREAS, First responders risk their own lives and safety in the execution of their duties to protect the public on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, First responders are the first line of defense for the public against threats, both domestic and foreign; and

WHEREAS, Nationally, on average, first responders are injured on the job three times more often than workers in other occupations; and

WHEREAS, First responders experience extreme physical demands and hazardous situations that contribute to personal injury and death, including gunfire, vehicular accidents, assaults, and building collapses; and

WHEREAS, First responders are exposed to occupation-related diseases such as cardiorespiratory disease, overexertion, and cancer; and

WHEREAS, First responder deaths constitute five percent of occupational fatalities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, First responders experience high levels of stress, and many struggle with mental health issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which family members of first responders also often develop; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of first responders have made the ultimate sacrifice, including police and sheriff's patrol officers, who have an estimated fatality rate of 14.6 per 100,000 workers, more than twice the national average, a number that includes three officers who died in the line of duty in Colorado in 2018; and

WHEREAS, First responders stand at the ready to come to the aid of the citizens of the United States of America twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, First responders are a vital part of our communities, not only standing ready to deal with emergencies but also volunteering in our schools and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, Individuals, both career and volunteer, including police, fire, emergency medical services, search and rescue, and other organizations in the public safety sector, come together as a collective to aid the public in the event of an emergency; and

WHEREAS, There are over one million firefighters in the United States, and over 800,000 of those are volunteer firefighters; and

WHEREAS, There are over 800,000 emergency medical services personnel in the United States; and

WHEREAS, There are over 750,000 state and local law enforcement officers working for nearly 18,000 law enforcement agencies around the country; and

WHEREAS, Colorado joins the following states in designating September 27 as "First Responder Appreciation Day": Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Arizona, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado General Assembly wishes to honor and support all first responders with an annual day of appreciation; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

- (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, designate September 27, 2019, as "First Responder Appreciation Day"; and
- (2) That we recognize and honor all first responders who put their lives on the line daily to serve and protect the people of Colorado.

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

- (1) The following organizations: Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police; Colorado Fraternal Order of Police; Colorado Police Protective Association; Colorado Professional Fire Fighters; Colorado Search and Rescue Board; County Sheriffs of Colorado; Colorado State Fire Fighters Association; Colorado State Fire Chiefs; Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado; Denver Police Protective Association; "I Love U Guys" Foundation; Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority; National EMS Memorial Service;
- (2) The following first responders: Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Training Academy; AirLife Denver; American Medical Response Aurora; American Medical Response Boulder; American Medical Response Canon City; American Medical Response Denver; American Medical Response Golden; American Medical Response Longmont; American Medical Response Pueblo; Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office; Arvada Fire Protection District; Berthoud Fire Protection District; Big Elk Volunteer Fire Department; Boulder County Sheriff's Office; City of Aurora Fire Department; City of Aurora Police Department; City of Brush Fire Department; City of Colorado Springs Police Department; City of Fort Collins Police Department; City of Lyons Fire Department; City of Wheat Ridge Police Department; Colorado North Central All-Hazards Emergency Management Region; Colorado River Fire Rescue; Colorado Springs Fire Department; Colorado State Patrol; CO-TF1, FEMA Urban

Search and Rescue; Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Department; Cunningham Fire Protection District; Denver 911 Emergency Communications Center; Denver Fire Department; Denver Health Paramedic All-terrain Medical Unit; Denver Health Paramedics; Denver International Airport EMS Team; Denver Health Paramedic Wildland Fire Team; Denver Police Academy; Denver Police Department; Elbert County Sheriff's Office; El Paso County Sheriff's Office; Emergency Department, Medical Center of Aurora; Emergency Medical Services, Denver Health Medical Center; Emergency Medical Services, Swedish Medical Center Denver; Erie Police Department; Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department; Estes Park Police Department; Evergreen Fire/Rescue; First Responder Network Authority; Foothills Fire Department; Fort Morgan Fire Department; Glacier View Fire Protection District; Glen Haven Area Volunteer Fire Department; Golden Police and Fire Dispatch; Grand County EMS; Great Basin Type 1 Incident Management Team; Great Basin Type 2 Incident Management Team; HealthOne Clinic Services EMS and Trauma Unit; Huerfano County Fire Department; Jefferson County Critical Incident Dispatch Team; Jefferson County Regional SWAT; Jefferson County Sheriff's Office; Lafayette Fire Department; Lafayette Police Department; Lakewood Police Department; Larimer County Sheriff's Office; Livermore Fire Protection District; Louisville Fire Department; Louisville Police Department; Loveland Fire Department; Mesa County Sheriff's Office; MetCom 911; Mountain View Fire Department; Mountain View Fire Protection District; North Fork Volunteer Fire Department; O.M.E.G.A.; Park County Sheriff's Office; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District - Station 1; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District - Station 2; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District - Station 3; Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District - Station 4; Poudre Fire Authority; Pueblo 911 Communications Center; Pueblo City Fire Department; Pueblo West Fire Department; Red Feather Lakes Fire Protection District; Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department; South Metro Fire Rescue; Stadium Medical; Trauma Program Director, Medical Center of Aurora; Wellington Fire Protection District; West Douglas County Fire Protection District; West Metro Fire Protection District; Westminster Police and Fire Dispatch; Wheat Ridge Fire Department; Wheat Ridge Police and Fire Dispatch; Wiggins Rural Fire Department; and Yarnell Fire Department;

(3) Tim Gregg, Executive Director of National First Responder Appreciation Day; and

(4) President Donald J. Trump and each member of Colorado's Congressional delegation.

Leroy M. Garcia
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE