

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R16-0808.01 Jessica Wigent x3701

**SJR16-006**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Sonnenberg,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fields and Lawrence,**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-006**

101     **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF FEBRUARY 4 AS "MISSING**  
102     **PERSONS DAY" IN COLORADO.**

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1         WHEREAS, Each year, hundreds of thousands of families are  
2     faced with what President Ronald Reagan called "the stark terror of a  
3     unique tragedy"--a missing family member; and

4         WHEREAS, Every 40 seconds, someone goes missing in America;  
5     approximately 2,300 Americans are reported missing every day, and there  
6     are as many as 90,000 active missing persons cases in the United States  
7     at any given time; and

8         WHEREAS, In 2014, the FBI's National Crime Information Center  
9     logged 466,949 reports of missing children; by December 31, 2014, the  
10    FBI reported 89,924 active missing persons in the United States, with

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 more than half being juveniles under the age of 21; and

2 WHEREAS, Children and adults go missing from their families for  
3 a number of devastating reasons: they run away or wander and become  
4 lost; they disappear under circumstances indicating that their  
5 disappearance may not have been voluntary; or they go missing under  
6 suspicious circumstances, indicating that they may be in physical danger  
7 or the victims of foul play; and

8 WHEREAS, In 2002, Colorado Governor Bill Owens signed  
9 House Bill 02-1083, establishing the AMBER (America's Missing:  
10 Broadcast Emergency Response) Alert program in Colorado; named after  
11 nine-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was abducted and killed in Texas  
12 in 1996, the program ensures that local law enforcement agencies can use  
13 the Emergency Alert System in Colorado to broadcast information to alert  
14 citizens of missing children; and

15 WHEREAS, Since 1996, AMBER Alerts have successfully  
16 recovered 772 children nationally; and

17 WHEREAS, For all the important work done to recover missing  
18 children, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children lists 58  
19 missing Coloradan children from every area of the state; all disappeared  
20 from their families when they were children and some have been missing  
21 for decades; and

22 WHEREAS, While too many families grieve and hope for their  
23 missing children, others are in search of their missing family members of  
24 all ages; and

25 WHEREAS, According to the Alzheimer's Association, 6 in 10  
26 people with Alzheimer's or dementia will wander and may become lost,  
27 a frequent and frightening challenge for their caregivers and families; and

28 WHEREAS, In 2007, Colorado Governor Bill Ritter signed House  
29 Bill 07-1005 into law, which expanded an alert program for senior  
30 citizens to include people with developmental disabilities to connect  
31 caretakers with law enforcement officials, who can use the reach of the  
32 radio and television stations and other media to alert the community; and

33 WHEREAS, The awareness of citizens, media, and law  
34 enforcement, as well as their support, their efforts, and their search for

1 missing persons, must continue; and

2 WHEREAS, The public plays a critical role in the success of the  
3 AMBER and Silver Alert programs; they become the eyes and the ears of  
4 law enforcement and can be on the lookout for the missing person; and

5 WHEREAS, The common misconception that a person must be  
6 absent for at least 24 hours before being legally classified as missing is  
7 dangerous; when there is evidence of violence or of an unusual absence,  
8 it is critical that an investigation begin promptly; and

9 WHEREAS, New advances in technology must be utilized and  
10 made available to locate the missing; and

11 WHEREAS, The state of Colorado is committed to the safety and  
12 well-being of its citizens, both children and adults; and

13 WHEREAS, The designation of Missing Persons Day in Colorado  
14 will firmly embed the importance of missing persons and their families  
15 and friends in our state calendar and will raise a level of awareness with  
16 other cities and states that have already designated a Missing Persons  
17 Day; and

18 WHEREAS, The designation of Missing Persons Day in Colorado  
19 offers a platform to plan events that will connect families with resources  
20 to help identify and find their long-term missing loved ones; and

21 WHEREAS, The designation of Missing Persons Day in Colorado  
22 will ensure that the families and friends of the missing know that they are  
23 not alone in this tragedy of uncertainties and lack of closure, which leads  
24 to extreme suffering and long-lasting effects on the health, finances, and  
25 relationships of those left behind; and

26 WHEREAS, Every missing person is someone's son or daughter,  
27 father or mother, brother or sister, partner or friend, and every missing  
28 person deserves to be searched for and found; now, therefore,

29 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly*  
30 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

31 (1) That we, the members of the General Assembly, recognize the  
32 epidemic of the missing in America as "The Silent Mass Disaster" and

1 empathize with the ongoing suffering of the families and friends of those  
2 who are missing;

3 (2) That we recognize the importance of raising awareness of the  
4 numbers of people who go missing in Colorado each year;

5 (3) That we applaud the committed efforts of families, law  
6 enforcement agencies, and concerned citizens who work to locate missing  
7 persons;

8 (4) That we encourage the continued support of worthy initiatives  
9 and private and public programs to increase efforts to locate missing  
10 persons;

11 (5) That we hereby designate February 4 of each year as Missing  
12 Persons Day and support the goals and ideals of the day; and

13 (6) That we acknowledge the names, and the families, of the  
14 Coloradans who are currently missing: Christopher Enoch Abeyta, Luis  
15 Acosta, John Aden, Carmen Aguilera, Jesus Alavarez, Katherine Allen,  
16 Victoria Alleyne, Angie Almanza, Bryan Dale Ambrose, Ambreen  
17 Amjad, Uvaldo Moises Anaya, Keith Robert Anderson, Isabella  
18 Balajonda Annibal, Tiannah Annibal, Carlo Isai Andrade, Cynthia  
19 Atterbury, Bonny L. Baker, Brandon Masaki Baker, Victoria Bakhtiari,  
20 Linda J. Barker, Gayla Jean Barnes, Katherine Sue Barnum, Mario  
21 Barraza-Murillo, Colleen Kay Barrett, James Bartholomew, Tracy Jay  
22 Bastion, Joseph Batie, Richard Glen Beebe, Angelaquic Benson, Pamela  
23 Sue Bera, David Gerard Berger, Gloria Berreth, Casey Scott Berry,  
24 Abigail Jo Blagg, Marie Ann Blee, Robert Matthew Bockmann, Mark  
25 Bonner, Lesley Allan Border, Robert James Bowling, Arthur Brandes,  
26 William Brennan, Lester Joseph Bright, Emily Bruner, Austin Eugene  
27 Bryant, Edward Dylan Bryant, Colleen Kay Burgess, Daniel Burrow,  
28 Sherry Dawn Bynum, Frederick Lee Cain, Rocky Carpenter, Thad D.  
29 Carper, Christopher Kit Carson, Gregory John Carter, Timothy Darrell  
30 Case, Katelyn Caudill, Autumn Starr Cerenil-Lee, Ramey Chabaria,  
31 Kenneth Anthony Chacon, Dena Chandelario Snyder, Lorenzo D.  
32 Chivers, Earl T. Clark, Randall S. Clark, Ray Burssie Collins, Christopher  
33 Michael Collyer, Martin Ernest Conley, Darren Michael Connolly,  
34 Thomas R. Cook, Randi Coon, Timothy L. Copley, Patricia Ann Cordova,  
35 Shaun Wayne Cordova, Charlene M. Cramer, Lynnea Rose Cross, Angie  
36 Cruz Garces, Valentin Cruz, Julie L. Cunningham, Johnathan Dalton,  
37 Maurice Gordon Dametz, James Earl Dean, Samantha Delano, Julia R.

1 Dearemt, Fabian Del Rosario, Aiffatoo Diroume, Nicholas Joseph Dolce,  
2 Nonnie Ann Dotson, Jennifer Anne Douglas, Rex Lee Douglas, Dean  
3 Drew, Stephanie Ann Drnovsek, Charles Ellsworth Duke, Keith Ebrecht,  
4 Adam N. Elkhadiri, Roger John Ellison, Bekime Elshani, Maria I.  
5 Emeterio, Beverly Lynn England, April Brenda Escobedo, Eric Espinoza,  
6 Mary Helen Esquibel, Julia Ferdig-Candow, Elaine J. Fauver, J.D.  
7 Ferguson, William P. Ferguson, John Patrick Fischer, Eugene Francis  
8 Fish, Jocelyn S. Fish, Stephanie Kay Fladgard, Blanca Chanel Flores,  
9 Daniel John Forrentino, Jeffrey Lee Fossum, Matthew Coleman Foxley,  
10 Mary Angela Gallegos, Evaristo Galvan, Ailena Garcia, Shaida Ghaemi,  
11 Phillip Gomez, Patricia Gonzalez, Robert F. Gonzales, Jack Nels Gordon,  
12 Lucas Whyte Gordon, Evan Eugene Graham, Alector Gray, Benjamin  
13 Franklin Gray, Kimberly Diane Greene-Medina, Sean Ryan Gribble, John  
14 Gruber, Patricia Ann Gutierrez, Benito Guzman, Emanuel Guzman,  
15 Debra Ann Hageman, Norma Jean Halford, Prestlie Dean Hall, Joseph  
16 Lawrence Halpern, Christopher James Harvey, Jon Truscott Haynes,  
17 Mitchell Todd Hein, Ronda Elizabeth Henrichsen, Deborah Ann  
18 Heriford, Carmen Rose Hetrick, Helen Holdman, Daphne Ronette Hope,  
19 Theresa Lynn Hubbard, Joyce Hunter, Michael B. Hunter, Peter J. Hurst,  
20 Deborah K. Hyatt, Carl Leroy Jackson, Ashley Lee James, Brian James,  
21 Brian Russell Jaramillo, Dorothy L. Jenkins, Sipriano J. Jiminez, Jasmine  
22 Johnson, Ashton Richard Jones, Svetlana Jones, Benjamin Clements  
23 Kalina, Joseph L Keller, Rebecca Ann Kellison, James Kilby, Sandra Lee  
24 Killian, Walter Iwao Kimoto, Richard James Kirk, Tereasa Sue Knuth,  
25 Claudia Ko, Tiffany Ko, Shelly Kowalski, David Kramer, Bethany Kruc,  
26 Ronald Kuetemeier, Summer Larned-Duran, Lori Lee Layman, Jamie  
27 Legoretta, Edith Bernice Lehnerz, John Francis Lenihan, Andy Joe  
28 Lepley, Jerri Dale Lesser, Patricia Ann Lilly, Maria Ling, Maria Lira,  
29 Dennis Lopez, Perla Lopez, Laurie Renee Lucas, Lorne Mabbutt, Ernest  
30 Jonathan Macaulay, Charles Steven Madrid, Alyssa Mahan, Brandi Jo  
31 Malonson, Jennifer Lynn Marcum, James Martin, Daniel Martinez,  
32 Steven Martinez, Jonelle Matthews, Bruce Scott McAllister, Penny Lynn  
33 McClees, Michael Jerry McClure, Beverly Jean McCool, Oscar Joseph  
34 McNear, Crystal Medina, Douglas Edward Meer, Wendy Arely Mendez,  
35 Diana Aracely Mendoza, Yvonne Marie Mestas, Michael E. Meteer,  
36 Richard Stanley Meyer, Thomas Arthur Michaud, Evelyn D. Middleton,  
37 Elizabeth A. Miller, Rachelle Miller, Daniel Miranda, Rudolf Moder,  
38 Ruth Morales, Richard Kenneth Morgan, Shanti Mountain Sage Motry,  
39 Anthony Steven Michael Moya, Irma Rosario Muneton-Cueto, Binti  
40 Muse, Robert Myer, Pamela L. Neal, Nanci Terese Nelson, Kara Nancy  
41 Nichols, Edward D. Nickelson, Mary Niemi, John Northrup, Geraldine  
42 Ann Obregon-Gingles, Lee Steven Ochs, Maria Rosario Olea, Liliana

1 Olevera, Anthony M. Olivari, Denise Lynn Oliverson, Jessica Eileen  
2 Ortiz, Sandra Kay Patterson, Aarshiya Patil, Jiaa Patil, Ifeoma Pecorella,  
3 Theodore Petersen, Christopher W. Petty, Tom Phifer, Robert Thomas  
4 Pillsen-Rahier, Gary Edward Pino, Lea Porter, Diana Judith Portillo,  
5 Brian Pytlinski, Jorge Quinones, Kimberly Quinones-Rivera, Alejandro  
6 Quinones-Zapaico, Joclyn Evette Quintana, Beatriz Ramirez, Juana  
7 Ramirez, Sergio Ernesto Ramirez, Rosario Ramirez-Lujan, Antonio  
8 Ramirez-Orozco, Ambretta Luanna Rawhouser, Gerald Hugh Ray, Dylan  
9 Nicholas Redwine, Keith R. Reinhard, Kim Margaret Remmel, Ivan  
10 Renteria, Peggy Ann Reynolds, Ian Ashley Richardson, Alex Rivera,  
11 Amparo Rivera, Maria Guadalupe Rivera, Richard Dean Roberts, Shawn  
12 Roberts, Brenda Carol Rodriguez, Justus Alcorta Rodriguez, Steven  
13 Rogers, Georgia Lee Rohner, Raniro Romo, Martha Rye Rooks,  
14 Alejandro Rosales, Marco Rosales-Deloisa, Gary Jerome Rose, James  
15 Brian Rowe, Michael Damian Rust, Sandy Ruiz Salazar, Angela  
16 Sanchez, Caressa Sanchez, Mario Fernando Sanchez, Victoria Lenore  
17 Sanchez, Angelica Esperanza Sandoval, Kristina Marie Sandoval, Kelsie  
18 J. Schelling, Teresa Schilt, Teresa Schmidt, Samuel David Schrup, Robert  
19 Dwaine Scott, Jose I. Segura, Jessica Gale Shoemake, Nancy L. Shoupp  
20 Roberto Silva-Perez, Nicole E. Silvers, John M. Simons, Jewels Sirio,  
21 Ronnie D. Sisneros, Paul C. Skiba, Sarah Arielle Skiba, Gerald Kenneth  
22 Sollenbarger, Nathanael Sonobe, Juan Pablo Mendez Soto, Rocio C.  
23 Sperry, David Arthur Stack, Jordan Brianne Stattig, Julie Shawn  
24 Stefanek, Angela Stevens, Daryl A. Stockert, Joseph Stocks, Leval D.  
25 Storey, Raymond Stubblefield, Jeremy Jason Sullivan, Alexander J.  
26 Talamantes-Bourg, Vera Terrazas-Parra, Lori Ann Thiel, CStormy B.  
27 Taylor, Rodney L. Thomas, Aarone Thompson, Joel Matthew Thompson,  
28 Mallory Tillman, Nicholle Torrez, Paul Vernon Trowbridge, Sheri Lynn  
29 Trujillo, Shane Kelly Turner, Ligia Miranda Uribe-Ramos, Michelle  
30 Ileana Uribe-Ramos, Raelyn Trujillo, Carla F. Valdez, Michelle Rae  
31 Vanek, Cecilia L. Vargas-Merlos, Oscar Vasquez-Garcia, Jeremiah  
32 Vaughn, Juan Veloz-Reyes, John Michael Vengrin, Nicole Anna  
33 Vera-Rico, Amadeo Vigil, Christopher William Vigil, Robert Gilbert  
34 Vigil, Roger A. Vigil, Graycen Wagner, Michael Robert Walczak,  
35 Donald Emmitt Wall, Patricia M. Wallace, Darlene Ann Wallace, Robbie  
36 Alan Wardwell, Larry Watts, Seth Daniel Weaver, Ryan Wieter, Kathy  
37 Wilkerson, Dale Duane Williams, Barbara Wilson, Jinx Wilson, Wendy  
38 Renee Wisner, Timothy Dale Witt, Sturgis Lee Wittenburg, Ronald Lee  
39 Wood, William J. Worley, Eric M. Xooc Puc, Brian J. Yeagley, Shelda  
40 Yenter, D.Z. You Ying Pu, Harold Young, Alejandra Zavala, and Leland  
41 Zook.

1           *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
2 to Voices of Victims; Families of Homicide Victims and Missing  
3 Persons, Inc. (FOHVAMP); Colorado Victims for Justice; the Colorado  
4 Organization for Victim Assistance (COVA); and the Colorado Bureau  
5 of Investigation.