



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 18-004

BY SENATOR(S) Sonnenberg and Fields, Baumgardner, Cooke, Coram, Court, Crowder, Donovan, Fenberg, Garcia, Gardner, Guzman, Hill, Holbert, Jahn, Jones, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Merrifield, Moreno, Neville T., Priola, Scott, Smallwood, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Zenzinger, Grantham;

also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Lawrence, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Beckman, Benavidez, Bridges, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Catlin, Coleman, Danielson, Esgar, Everett, Exum, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Humphrey, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lebsack, Lee, Leonard, Lewis, Liston, Lontine, Lundeen, McKean, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson, Jenet, Neville P., Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Reyher, Roberts, Rosenthal, Saine, Salazar, Sandridge, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Willett, Williams D., Wilson, Winter, Wist, Young, Duran.

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

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

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

WHEREAS, In 2016, the FBI's National Crime Information Center logged 647,435 missing person reports; by December 31, 2016, the FBI reported 88,040 active missing persons in the United States, with almost half being juveniles under the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, Children and adults go missing from their families for a

number of devastating reasons: They run away or wander and become lost; they disappear under circumstances indicating that their disappearance may not have been voluntary; or they go missing under suspicious circumstances, indicating that they may be in physical danger or the victims of foul play; and

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

WHEREAS, Since 1996, AMBER Alerts have successfully recovered 800 children nationally; and

WHEREAS, For all the important work done to recover missing children, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children reported on its website in 2016 that 465,676 missing child reports were made to law enforcement in 2016, and the organization lists 84 missing Coloradan children from every area of the state--though all disappeared from their families when they were children, some have been missing for decades; and

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

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

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

WHEREAS, The awareness of citizens, media, and law enforcement, as well as their support, their efforts, and their search for missing persons, must continue; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) That we, the members of the General Assembly, recognize the epidemic of the missing in America as "The Silent Mass Disaster" and empathize with the ongoing suffering of the families and friends of those who are missing;

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

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

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

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

(6) That we acknowledge the names, and the families, of the Coloradans who are currently missing: Christopher Enoch Abeyta, Victor Abeyta, Luis Acosta, Cesenas Adriel, Lorraine Aguilar-Highpipe, Dora Alcaraz, Jorge Antonio Alcocer-Soto, Katherine Allen, Victor Alvarado, Bryan D. Ambrose, Uvaldo Anaya, Keith R. Anderson, Isabella Annibal, Tiannah Marie Annibal, Pauline Aragon, Cynthia L. Atterberry, Joaquin David G. Aviles-Silva, Brandon Masaki Baker, Victoria Bakhtiari, Alexandra Banda, Linda J. Barker, Gayla Jean Barnes, Katherine Sue Barnum, Mario Barraza-Murillo, Colleen Kay Barrett, Tracy Jay Bastion, Barbara Jean Baumann, Jermaine Bedford, Jr., Richard Beebe, Stephanie Benitez, Angelaquic Cindy Benson, Pamela Sue Bera, David Gerard Berger, Gloria Berreth, Casey S. Berry, Abby Blagg, Marie Ann Blee, Robert Bockmann, Richard Eugene Boldman, Mark Allen Bonner, Lesley Allan Border, Robert James Bowling, Arthur Brandes, William W. Brennan, Lester Joseph Bright, Austin E. Bryant, Edward D. Bryant, Colleen K. Burgess, Triniti Burrell, Sherry D. Bynum, Fred Cain, Dena Angelique Candelario, Kristine D. Capps, Luis Eduardo Carbajal-Ardon, Rocky Charles Carpenter, Christopher Kit Carson, Gregory John Carter, Reyes Ismael Casanova-Molina, Timothy Case, Jennifer C. Castro-Perdomo, Autumn Starr Cerenil, Kenneth Anthony Chacon, David Chambers, Michael Chastain, Francisco Chavez, Lorenzo Deshawn Chivers, Aldo Cid-Perez, Benjamin Dubreath Clark, Earl Tex Clark,

Randall Sirrine Clark, Ray Collins, Christopher Michael Collyer, Martin Conley, Thomas Randal Cook, Randi Coon, Timothy Lee Copley, Patricia Ann Cordova, Shaun Wayne Cordova, Emilio Nathaniel Cortez, Jamie Cortez, Trinity Vincee Cortez, Charlene M. Cramer, Valentin Cruz, Julie L. Cunningham, Maurice Gordon Dametz, James Earl Dean, Tyler Aaron Dean, Julia R. Dearemt, Louis Deherrera, Fabian Del Rosario, Kenneth Delgarmo, Nonnie Ann Dotson, Jennifer Anne Douglas, Rex L. Douglas, Stephanie Ann Drnovsek, Charles Duke, Denton Dyer, Keith Lee Ebrecht, Caleb Elaayi, Somaya Abdul F. Elaayi, Roger John Ellison, Bekime Elshani, Maria Emeterio, Eric Espinoza, Mary Helen Esquibel, Pauline Fajardo, Daniel Faust, Felicia Fellow, J.D. Ferguson, William P. Ferguson, Eugene Francis Fish, Stephanie Kay Fladgard, Blanca Chanel Flores, Jeffrey Lee Fossum, Matthew Coleman Foxley, Christopher Lynn Frazier, Hilga Marita Gallegos, Mary Angela Gallegos, Evaristo Galvan, Ailena Garcia, Anthony David Garland, Shaida Ghaemi, Phillip Gomez, Annalise Harley Gonzales, Sezja Marie Gonzales, Patricia Gonzalez, Jack M. Gordon, Lucas Whyte Gordon, Alector Gray, Benjamin Franklin Gray, Kimberly Diane Greene-Medina, Sean Ryan Gribble, John S. Gruber, Patricia Ann Gutierrez, Debra Ann Hageman, Norma Jean Halford, Prestlie Dean Hall, Joseph Lawrence Halpern, Kalah Marie Hare, Michael Harris, Patrick Thomas Harris, Christopher James Harvey, Evan Hawley, Jon Truscott Haynes, Mitchell Todd Hein, Paul Hemming, Ronda Henrichsen, Deborah Ann Heriford, Helen Herrera, Paul Richard Hodgden, Daniel Robert Holloway, Daphne Ronette Hope, Theresa Lynn Hubbard, Joyce Hunter, Robert Lee Hutchinson, Sandra Ibeth-Oliveres, Iris Igbiniedion, Alva Iglesias, Carl Leroy Jackson, Karen Jacobed, Ashley Lee James, Brian James, Russel Brian Jaramillo, Dorothy Loraine Jenkins, Sipriano J. Jiminez, Benjamin Clemens Kalina, Daniel Robin Paul Keller, Rebecca Ann Kellison, James Kilby, Sandra Lee Killian, Walter Iwao Kimoto, Tereasa Sue Knuth, Claudia Ko, Tiffany Ko, David Kramer, Ronald Kuetemeier, Lori Lee Layman, Edith Bernice Lehnerz, John Francis Lenihan, Andy Joe Lepley, Jerri Dale Lesser, Patricia Ann Lilly, Perla Lopez, Jaime Lopez-Arenas, Maria Elena Lopez-Orzuna, Laurie Renee Lucas, Sapphire Lynn Lucero, Ernest Jonathan Macaulay, Charles Steven Madrid, Felipe Jesus Maestas, Mardeli Maldonado, Brandi Malonson, Jennifer Lynn Marcum, Madai Soccoro Marentes, Juan Martin, Cynthia R. Martinez, Steven Martinez, Melmy Matos, Jonelle Matthews, Pamela Pearl Matthews, Bruce Scott McAllister, Penny Lynn McClees, Michael Jerry McClure, Beverly Joan McCool, James Jeffrey McDonald, Oscar J. McNear, Elizabeth McSweeney, Alejandro Medina,

Carla Medina, Crystal Medina, Linda Guadalupe Medrano, Douglas Edward Meer, Mauricio Mejia, Enrique Mendez, Wendy Arely Mendez, Lourdes Julis Mendoza-Morilla, Sheila Mendoza-Pelaez, Yvonne Marie Mestas, Michael E. Meteer, Richard Stanley Meyer, Paul Michals, Thomas Arthur Michaud, Roger Boyd Mikkelsen, Elizabeth Ann Miller, Rachelle Miller, Daniel H. Miranda, Rudolf Moder, Patrick Mooneyham, Richard Kenneth Morgan, Lekiesha Morris, Shanti Mountain Sage Motry, Anthony Steven Michael Moya, Saidi Muboramba, Irma Rosario Muneton-Cueto, Robert Myer, Jesus Manuel Nava, Pamela L. Neal, Nanci Terese Nelson, Karla Rolio Nevaraz, Kara Nancy Nichols, Mary Niemi, John Northrup, Celeste Noxon, Geraldine Ann Obregon-Gingles, Lee Ochs, Maria Rosario Olea, Anthony Olivari, Denise Oliverson, Lawrence Olmstead, Bhayron Ortiz, Jessica Eileen Ortiz, Brian Oshaughnessy, Gene Eton Ostrander, Robbie Paramio, Aarshiya Patil, Jiaa Patil, Sandra Kay Patterson, James Clinton Percy, Gilberto Perez-Cervantes, Tom Phifer, Robert T. Pillsen, Gary Pino, Gerri Polk, Lea Porter, Diana Judith Portillo, Samantha Powell, Jacqueline Prieto, Alejandro Quinones-Zapaico, Rosario Ramirez-Lujan, Erendida Reza Ramos, Ligia Ramos, Michelle Ramos, Jose Luis Rascon-Avila, Dylan Nicholas Redwine, Keith Reinhard, Kim Remmel, Ivan Renteria, Lewis Reyair, Maurice Reynolds, Peggy Ann Reynolds, Ian Ashley Richardson, Sergio Rios-Castillo, Greer Burgess Rivera, Richard Dean Roberts, Omar Rodriguez, Steven Rogers, Georgia Lee Rohner, Kimberly Rojo, Raniro Romo, Mayra Romo-Hernandez, Martha Rye Rooks, Gary Jerome Rose, James B. Rowe, Michelle Betrazi Ruiz-Lopez, Aubrey Caroline Sacco, Christian R. Salazar, Sandy Ruiz Salazar, Alon Micah Salby, Isiah Stephon Sanchez, Mario Fernando Sanchez, Victoria Sanchez, Angelica Esperanza Sandoval, Synolah Sanford-Owens, Thomas W. Scheck, Kelsie Schelling, Douglass Schliske, Teresa Schmidt, Samuel David Schrup, Robert Dwaine Scott, Jose Segura, Jessica G. Shoemake, Nancy Lynn Shoupp, Chianne Ashley Shubert, Tyler Shumaway, Roberto Silva-Perez, Nicole Evelyn Silvers, Obed Silvva-Vega, Gene Arnold Simmons, John Michael Simons, Jennifer Singh, Sharon Grace Singh, Ronald David Sisneros, Paul Carroll Skiba, Sarah Skiba, Shay Smith, Gabrielle Solano, Kimberlis Solis-Fajardo, Gerald Kenneth Sollenbarger, Emely Guiselle Statz, Julie Shawn Stefanek, Angela Stevens, Melinda Stewart, Lucas Stinchcomb, Daryl A. Stockert, Joseph Stocks, Servaas Stokvis, Leval Dijon Storey, Raymond Stubblefield, Carla Suarez, Matthew Vincent Sueper, Clinton John Anthony Sutton, Hector Talacios, Alexander J. Talamantes-Bourg, Ctormy Braaden Lawrenc Taylor, Jeff Taylor, Lori

Ann Thiel, Aaron Thompson, Joel Matthew Thompson, Albert Torres, Nicholle Torrez, Shane Kelly Turner, Carla F. Valdez, Yaritza Valdez, Jordan Vandegnft, Michelle Rae Vanek, Oscar Vasquez-Garcia, Odell Vest, Amadeo Vigil, Chris W. Vigil, Robert Gilbert Vigil, Roger Alphonso Vigil, Michael Walczak, Darlene Ann Wallace, Larry Watts, Jonathan M. Wheby, Adele Whitedress, Kathy Wilkerson, Dale Duane Williams, Barbara Wilson, Wendy Renee Wisner, Timothy Dale Witt, Ronald Lee Wood, Jr., William J. Worley, Eric Maurilio Xoooc Puc, D.Z. You Ying Pu, Harold Young, Megan Ziall, and Leland Zook.

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

Kevin J. Grantham
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