



SENATE MEMORIAL 20-002

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

MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE CORRECTIONAL WORKERS AT THE FEDERAL CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX IN FLORENCE, COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, TO PROVIDE FAIR AND UNINTERRUPTED COMPENSATION FOR THEIR ESSENTIAL WORK DURING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS.

WHEREAS, The Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, comprised of four institutions--Federal Prison Camp (FPC), Federal Correctional Institution (FCI), United States Penitentiary (USP), and United States Penitentiary Administrative Maximum Facility (ADMAX)--is located near Florence, Colorado, opened in 1994, and provides various degrees of security, from minimum security to supermax; and

WHEREAS, Inmates deemed too dangerous, too high profile, or too great a risk for other prisons are housed at ADMAX and include Unabomber Ted Kaczynski; Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev; terrorist Zacarias Moussaoui, who played a key role in the September 11, 2001, attacks on New York City; and Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán, former leader of Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel; and

WHEREAS, In total, the complex currently houses 1,395 prisoners, 376 of them at ADMAX, including foreign and domestic terrorists, organized crime figures, serial killers, and men who have murdered correctional officers and fellow inmates, placing staff in dangerous

situations daily; and

WHEREAS, The correctional officers of the Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, must undergo extensive training to maintain safety and security at the penitentiary 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and staff must also provide medical and mental health services, food services, academic opportunities, substance abuse treatment, cognitive and behavioral treatment, and recreation to the inmates; and

WHEREAS, When there is a federal government shutdown, employees at the Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, are required to work, oftentimes without guarantee of pay or of pay in a timely manner, because the complex cannot shut down under any circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Correctional officers at the Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, are paid less than correctional officers working for Colorado's Department of Corrections but serve a mission of protecting the citizens of Colorado and the United States, often from our most dangerous criminals; now, therefore,

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

(1) That the Congress of the United States is hereby memorialized to recognize the hard work and sacrifice of correctional workers at the Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, the significant role they play in the criminal justice system, and their loyalty and service to the United States.

(2) That the Congress of the United States should honor this vital work through legislation guaranteeing that correctional workers at the Federal Correctional Complex, Florence, are paid during a government shutdown and by ensuring they earn a wage commensurate with their difficult and necessary work.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be sent to Senator Cory Gardner, Senator Michael Bennet, Congresswoman Diana DeGette, Congressman Joe Neguse, Congressman Scott Tipton,

Congressman Ken Buck, Congressman Doug Lamborn, Congressman Jason Crow, Congressman Ed Perlmutter, and Michael Carvajal, Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

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PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

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