



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-032

BY SENATOR(S) Kerr, Court, Guzman, Jahn, Merrifield, Williams A., Aguilar, Baumgardner, Cooke, Coram, Crowder, Donovan, Fenberg, Fields, Garcia, Gardner, Hill, Holbert, Kagan, Kefalas, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Martinez Humenik, Moreno, Neville T., Priola, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Tate, Todd, Zenzinger, Grantham;
 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Danielson, Arndt, Becker K., Beckman, Bridges, Buck, Buckner, Catlin, Covarrubias, Esgar, Exum, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Jackson, Kennedy, Lebsock, Leonard, Lewis, Lontine, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mitsch Bush, Navarro, Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Salazar, Sias, Singer, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Wilson, Winter, Wist, Duran.

CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF COLORADO WORKERS WHO DIED ON THE JOB, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, COMMEMORATING THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY OF WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY ON APRIL 28, 2017.

WHEREAS, On April 28, 1971, the United States created the Occupational Safety and Health Administration in the Department of Labor, an agency created for the sole purpose of protecting workers from injury and death; aptly, April 28 has been observed in the United States as Workers' Memorial Day; and

WHEREAS, Since 1989, Workers' Memorial Day has been recognized throughout Colorado, throughout the nation, and around the world as a day to mourn and show reverence for those who have perished as a result of work-related accidents; and

WHEREAS, Annually in Colorado, as many as 100 women's and men's lives are claimed by occupational illnesses and traumatic injuries sustained on the job, with approximately half of these tragic incidents involving a person under 45 years old; and

WHEREAS, The sudden, unexpected, and at times violent nature of these events leaves behind a wake of immense pain and suffering for the families, friends, and colleagues of the fallen; and

WHEREAS, The emotional impact and financial toll of extreme economic hardship due to associated medical and funeral costs, a loss of household income, and any unpaid debts leave an indelible mark upon those left behind; and

WHEREAS, While Workers' Memorial Day is a paramount opportunity to mourn such loss, it is not merely a day to grieve loved ones that have fallen victim to occupational hazards, but also a day to reflect on the often preventable nature of these injuries, illnesses, diseases, and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, Workers' Memorial Day is a chance for business, labor, and government to reflect on how continued cooperation and diligent prevention efforts can significantly reduce workplace catastrophes; and

WHEREAS, Observing Workers' Memorial Day gives all Coloradans an opportunity to join together to pay our respects to the fallen and to rededicate ourselves to the mission of safe and healthy work environments for all in the face of new technological advancements and the changing dynamics of the American workplace; 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 observe Workers' Memorial Day as a day to remember those who have died from occupational illnesses and accidents and those who have suffered as a result; and

(2) That we commemorate the 28th anniversary of Workers' Memorial Day on April 28, 2017.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the AFL-CIO, the United States

Department of Labor, the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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