



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14-1008

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Exum and Stephens, Conti, Foote, Garcia, Ginal, Kraft-Tharp, Lawrence, McLachlan, Moreno, Nordberg, Pabon, Peniston, Pettersen, Primavera, Schafer, Williams, Young, Becker, Buck, Buckner, Coram, Court, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Everett, Fields, Fischer, Gardner, Gerou, Hamner, Holbert, Hullinghorst, Humphrey, Joshi, Kagan, Labuda, Landgraf, Lebsock, Lee, May, McCann, McNulty, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Murray, Navarro, Priola, Rankin, Rosenthal, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Scott, Singer, Sonnenberg, Swalm, Szabo, Tyler, Vigil, Waller, Wilson, Wright, Ferrandino;

also SENATOR(S) Nicholson and Roberts, Aguilar, Balmer, Baumgardner, Brophy, Cadman, Crowder, Grantham, Guzman, Harvey, Heath, Herpin, Hill, Hodge, Jahn, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, King, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Newell, Renfroe, Rivera, Scheffel, Schwartz, Steadman, Tochtrop, Todd, Ulibarri, Zenzinger, Carroll.

CONCERNING THE COLORADO NATIONAL GUARD AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, HONORING GUARD MEMBERS FOR THEIR FIREFIGHTING AND FLOOD RECOVERY EFFORTS.

WHEREAS, Since 1860, the men and women of the Colorado Army National Guard and Air National Guard have served our country in wartime and peace, "always ready, always there", as the first military responders to domestic emergencies affecting our communities, this state, and the nation; and

WHEREAS, The frequency and severity of wildfires and floods in Colorado are increasing, and when such natural disasters occur in Colorado, members of the Colorado Army National Guard and Air National Guard are frequently called upon to assist civil authorities in firefighting and flood recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, Members of the Colorado Army National Guard and Air National Guard have been called upon to assist firefighting efforts at many fires across the state, including the High Park fire in Larimer county, the Waldo Canyon fire in El Paso county, the Fern Lake fire in Larimer county, the Black Forest fire in El Paso county, the East Peak fire in Huerfano county, the Lime Gulch fire in Jefferson county, and the West Fork Fire Complex in southern Colorado; and

WHEREAS, On June 11, 2013, 14 soldiers of the Colorado Army National Guard's 1157th Engineer Firefighter Company joined more than 120 other members of the Colorado Army National Guard and Air National Guard who were assisting civil authorities with firefighting support at the Black Forest fire in El Paso county; and

WHEREAS, On June 22, 2013, 75 members of the Colorado National Guard mobilized to fight the ongoing fire activity in Colorado, and 15 members of the Colorado Army National Guard's 1-157th Infantry Battalion joined an Interagency Type II Handcrew and deployed to the East Peak fire in Huerfano county and spent 5 days securing the line on this fire; and

WHEREAS, On September 12, 2013, the Colorado National Guard launched Operation Centennial Raging Waters to assist the Colorado communities devastated by flooding; and

WHEREAS, In the subsequent weeks, 980 members of the Colorado National Guard conducted air and ground search and rescue missions, sandbagging operations, and security checkpoints; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado National guard succeeded in evacuating 3,233 people and 1,300 pets in need of rescue; now, therefore,

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

That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

(1) Commend the men and women of the Colorado National Guard who have tirelessly assisted civil authorities with wildfire suppression and flood support;

(2) Extend our deep gratitude to the brave and admirable service of the Colorado National Guard; and

(3) Affirm that the Colorado National Guard fulfills its motto of "always ready, always there".

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Governor John Hickenlooper; Major General H. Michael Edwards, The Adjutant General for Colorado; Brigadier General Peter Byrne, Director of Joint Staff; Michael Hunt, Deputy Executive Director, Colorado Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; General Frank J. Grass, Chief of the National Guard Bureau; and Paul Cooke, Director of the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control.

Mark Ferrandino
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Morgan Carroll
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE