

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R26-1014.01 Nicole Denney x2297

SJR26-025

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-025

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE**
102 **COLORADO MINING ASSOCIATION, THE OLDEST MINING**
103 **ASSOCIATION IN THE UNITED STATES.**

1 WHEREAS, The Colorado Mining Association was established in
2 1876 and incorporated in 1897 and is the oldest mining association in the
3 United States, sharing its 150th anniversary in 2026 with the State of
4 Colorado; and

5 WHEREAS, From the earliest days, mining was foundational to
6 the territorial economy, population growth, and path to Colorado's
7 statehood; and

8 WHEREAS, The Colorado Mining Association played a notable
9 role in the history of the State and represented its earliest employers and
10 mining communities; and

11 WHEREAS, The mining industry was a catalyst that built towns,
12 funded schools, laid railroads, and drew people from around the world
13 seeking opportunity; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

SENATE
Final Reading
May 4, 2026

1 WHEREAS, Mining contributed immensely to making the territory
2 into a state, helped the rugged landscape evolve into a thriving economy,
3 and responded when called upon to fulfill a critical role in the production
4 of minerals in support of the Nation during times of war; and

5 WHEREAS, The mining industry and the Colorado Mining
6 Association prioritize continual improvements to safety performance and
7 mitigation of environmental impacts as mining practices advance and
8 innovate; and

9 WHEREAS, The mining industry celebrates its workforce and the
10 communities in which it operates across Colorado representing a
11 partnership that emphasizes safety, transparency, and ongoing
12 engagement; and

13 WHEREAS, Colorado Mining Association members have
14 significantly contributed to the reclamation of legacy mine sites, with
15 substantial resources dedicated to reclaiming legacy mine lands; and

16 WHEREAS, The Colorado Mining Association maintains a strong
17 working relationship with the State of Colorado and its regulatory
18 agencies, and, for over 25 years, the Colorado Mining Association has
19 partnered with the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety
20 in the Department of Natural Resources to promote and recognize
21 excellence in environmental stewardship and mine safety; and

22 WHEREAS, The Colorado Mining Association has maintained a
23 Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Bureau of Land
24 Management since 1976 to foster open communication and collaboration
25 for the responsible production of mineral resources in Colorado; and

26 WHEREAS, Thanks to these long-standing collaborative
27 relationships, Colorado's mining industry has earned a global reputation
28 for exceeding some of the world's most rigorous environmental and safety
29 standards; and

30 WHEREAS, Today, the Colorado Mining Association represents
31 companies that are engaged in the exploration, production, and refining
32 of mineral resources, as well as mining companies with national and
33 global headquarters in Colorado, equipment manufacturers, law firms,
34 engineering and consulting organizations, and financial institutions
35 serving the mining industry; and

1 WHEREAS, Colorado has among the richest mineral endowments
2 in the Nation, and is the global leader in molybdenum production and a
3 significant producer of gold, coal, uranium, vanadium, and industrial
4 minerals and has the potential for additional copper, silver, and other
5 critical minerals development in the future; and

6 WHEREAS, The mining industry in Colorado contributes
7 approximately \$7 billion to Colorado's GDP each year, has among the
8 highest industry sector pay rates in the state with an average annual salary
9 of \$112,000, and supports nearly 57,000 direct and indirect jobs, making
10 Colorado the hub of the professional mining sector in the United States;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The mining industry in Colorado produces minerals
13 that support other important Colorado industries, including energy
14 production and transmission, aerospace and technology, medical
15 equipment, infrastructure, and many others, contributing to the nation's
16 energy, national security, and advanced technology objectives; and

17 WHEREAS, The Colorado Mining Association is well positioned
18 to remain an important part of Colorado's economy, supporting jobs,
19 economic development, and the production of minerals needed for the
20 state's industries and future growth; now, therefore,

21 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fifth General Assembly*
22 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

23 That the General Assembly recognizes the Colorado Mining
24 Association for its foundational role in Colorado's history and its
25 continued representation of the mining industry to support responsible
26 development for vital mineral resources.