

**Second Regular Session
Sixty-third General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R02-0850.01 Elizabeth Burger

HJR02-1021

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 02-1021

101 **CONCERNING PREGNANCY AND INFANT LOSS REMEMBRANCE DAY.**

1 WHEREAS, An overwhelming number of American families
2 suffer the heartbreak of miscarriage, stillbirth, and infant loss every year;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, According to a study by the Centers for Disease
5 Control, in 1996, 16% of over 6 million pregnancies ended in either
6 miscarriage or stillbirth, totaling nearly one million prenatal losses.
7 Although 3,720,000 of those pregnancies resulted in live births, 26,784
8 of those infants died within their first 11 months of life; and

9 WHEREAS, While miscarriages and stillbirths are most often
10 caused by abnormal development in the womb, the exact cause of the loss
11 of a pregnancy often goes unexplained; and

12 WHEREAS, Because of the nature of miscarriages and stillbirths
13 and the lack of understanding of pregnancy loss among the public,
14 women and families that suffer this tragedy are often forced to bear their
15 pain and sorrow over their loss in private and are not given the
16 opportunity to grieve publicly; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 WHEREAS, Infant death results from a number of causes
2 including Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS, which kills many
3 more children than cancer, heart disease, pneumonia, child abuse, AIDS,
4 cystic fibrosis, and muscular dystrophy, combined; and

5 WHEREAS, The availability of information about pregnancy and
6 infant loss is of the utmost importance to those who suffer this tragedy,
7 and a public that is well informed and well educated about pregnancy and
8 infant loss and its effects upon individuals and families can better respond
9 with compassion and understanding to affected families; and

10 WHEREAS, Professionals, such as health care providers, clergy,
11 funeral directors, and law enforcement officers, who come in contact with
12 individuals and families who have suffered miscarriage, still birth, or
13 infant loss can better serve families if they have special training and
14 knowledge of miscarriage, still birth, and infant loss and its effects; and

15 WHEREAS, Support from family, friends, and members of the
16 community is essential in helping those who have suffered from
17 miscarriage, still birth, and infant loss to cope with their loss; now,
18 therefore,

19 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-third*
20 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

21 (1) That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the
22 Sixty-third General Assembly, proclaim October 15, 2002, Pregnancy and
23 Infant Loss Remembrance Day to remember all of the pregnancies and
24 infants lost, to lend support and comfort in a time of pain and heartache
25 for those who have suffered from miscarriage, still birth, and infant loss,
26 and to create hope for the future.

27 (2) That citizens of the State of Colorado be called upon to
28 become educated and informed about the effects of miscarriage, still
29 birth, and infant loss in order to provide compassionate support to
30 individuals and families who are affected by this tragedy.