

First Regular Session  
Sixty-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R03-1214.01 Priscilla Hemmerich

SJR03-038

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Groff,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Marshall,

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Senate Committees

House Committees

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 03-038

101 CONCERNING AWARENESS AND TREATMENT OF EPILEPSY.

1 WHEREAS, Epilepsy is a neurological condition, symptoms of  
2 which include seizures caused by disturbances in the normal electrical  
3 functions of the brain; and

4 WHEREAS, Epilepsy affects people of all ages, all nations, and  
5 all races; and

6 WHEREAS, There appears to be no single, identifiable cause for  
7 the condition in 7 out of 10 people with Epilepsy; and

8 WHEREAS, As of 1996, nearly 1.4 million Americans were  
9 reported as having Epilepsy; and

10 WHEREAS, The majority of Americans with Epilepsy are under  
11 45 years of age; and

12 WHEREAS, Epilepsy can develop at any time in life, with 30%  
13 of the 125,000 new cases every year beginning in childhood, and another  
14 large percentage developing in people 65 years of age and older; 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, Epilepsy is a life-altering condition that can affect an  
2 individual's employment prospects and personal freedom with loss of  
3 driving privileges; and

4           WHEREAS, Treatment is primarily through the administration of  
5 anticonvulsant or antiepileptic drugs, but Epilepsy is also treated in some  
6 people by surgery and in children by severe dietary restrictions; and

7           WHEREAS, Treatment for Epilepsy is provided by neurologists,  
8 pediatricians, neurosurgeons, internists, and family physicians; and

9           WHEREAS, Epilepsy can be a debilitating and life-threatening  
10 condition in certain circumstances; and

11           WHEREAS, Epileptic seizures can result in permanent brain  
12 damage or death if the seizure is not treated correctly; and

13           WHEREAS, It is vital that those in the medical profession,  
14 specifically those who work in emergency rooms, know how to treat  
15 patients with Epilepsy; now, therefore,

16           *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly*  
17 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

18           That we, the members of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly,  
19 encourage emergency rooms throughout Colorado to make every effort  
20 to heighten the awareness of their personnel to the condition of Epilepsy  
21 and provide training to emergency room doctors and nurses on proper  
22 treatment of patients who have Epilepsy.

23           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be  
24 transmitted to hospital emergency rooms throughout Colorado.