



HOUSE RESOLUTION 03-1018

BY REPRESENTATIVES Wiens, Borodkin, Boyd, Brophy, Cadman, Carroll, Coleman, Crane, Hall, Hoppe, Johnson R., King, Larson, Lee, Lundberg, Madden, May M., Merrifield, Miller, Paccione, Rhodes, Romanoff, Rose, Salazar, Schultheis, Spradley, Tochtrop, Veiga, Weddig, Weissmann, White, Williams T., and Witwer.

CONCERNING REGIONAL PLANNING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY.

WHEREAS, The risks to public health and safety have increased significantly throughout the nation since September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, The president and the secretary of homeland security have called upon state and local governments to increase their level of readiness and their ability to respond to these risks; and

WHEREAS, In Colorado, various agencies are responsible for different aspects of public health and safety, including emergency management, law enforcement, homeland security, bioterrorism preparedness, public health, emergency medical services, fire suppression, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, There are at least fourteen different maps dividing the state into regions for these public health and safety purposes, including maps showing five "all hazards" regions defined by the Office of Emergency Management, seven preparedness and security regions defined by the Office of Preparedness, Security, and Fire Safety, eleven regions for the Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma Advisory Councils, and another set of regions for bioterrorism planning defined by the Department of Public Health and Environment; and

WHEREAS, The existence of multiple planning maps with overlapping regions requires public health and safety managers to participate in redundant planning efforts, reduces the effectiveness of emergency planning and response, creates a risk of incompatible or competing plans, and uses scarce resources inefficiently; and

WHEREAS, A single regional planning and operations map should be created for use by all state and local entities involved in public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, Rationalizing the system of regional planning in accordance with the "all risks" approach to public health and safety would help first responders from various state and local agencies work together to provide integrated and cooperative emergency services to the citizens of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Counties Incorporated, the Colorado Municipal League, the Colorado State Fire Chiefs' Association, the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police, the County Sheriff's of Colorado, the Emergency Medical Services Association of Colorado, and the Colorado Emergency Management Association have agreed to assist in the development of a single regional planning and operations map and to use the map in coordination with state agencies; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

(1) That the state and local government agencies that are responsible for various aspects of public health and safety are encouraged to work together to develop a single regional planning and operations map to be recommended to the governor and the executive directors of the principal departments that are responsible for public health and safety.

(2) That the governor of the state of Colorado is encouraged to issue an executive order directing the principle departments that are responsible for public health and safety to immediately adopt a single regional planning and operations map.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the governor of the state of Colorado and to the executive director of each principal department that is responsible for any aspect of public health and safety.

Judith Rodrigue
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Lola Spradley
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES