

**HOUSE JOURNAL**  
**SIXTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**STATE OF COLORADO**  
**First Regular Session**

Second Legislative Day

Thursday, January 8, 2009

1 Prayer by Dr. C. Gene Selander, Crystal Clear Ministries, Denver.

2

3 The Speaker called the House to order at 10:00 a.m.

4

5 Pledge of Allegiance led by Ethan and Rachael Green, Rock Ridge  
6 Elementary and Kindergarten, Castle Rock.

7

8 The roll was called with the following result:

9

10 Present--65.

11

12 The Speaker declared a quorum present.

13

14

15

16 On motion of Representative McNulty, the reading of the journal of  
17 January 7, 2009, was declared dispensed with and approved as corrected  
18 by the Chief Clerk.

19

20

21

22

**CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

23

24 **HR09-1002** by Representative(s) Benefield, Court, Massey, Vaad--  
25 Concerning employees and positions for the House of  
26 Representatives convened in the First Regular Session of  
27 the Sixty-seventh General Assembly.

28

29 (Printed and placed in member's file)

30

31 On motion of Representative Benefield, the resolution was **adopted** by  
32 **viva voce** vote.

33

34 **HR09-1003** by Representative(s) Benefield, Court, Massey, Vaad--  
35 Concerning payment of employees for pre-session work  
36 for the House of Representatives convened in the First  
37 Regular Session of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly.

38

39 (Printed and placed in member's file)

40

41 On motion of Representative Benefield, the resolution was **adopted** by  
42 **viva voce** vote.

43

1 **HR09-1004** by Representative(s) Benefield, Court, Massey, Vaad--  
2 Concerning the chaplain position in the house of  
3 representatives.  
4

5 (Printed and placed in member's file)  
6

7 On motion of Representative Benefield, the resolution was **adopted** by  
8 **viva voce** vote.  
9

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10 House in recess. House reconvened.  
11  
12  
13

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### 14 **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

15  
16  
17 The Senate has adopted and transmits herewith: SJR09-002, amended on  
18 January 8, 2009, as printed in Senate Journal.  
19

20 The Senate has adopted and returns herewith: SJR09-003. Pursuant to  
21 the resolution, the President appointed Senators Foster and Brophy  
22

23 The Senate has adopted and returns herewith: HJR09-1001. Pursuant to  
24 the resolution, the President appointed Senators Schwartz and Kester.  
25

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### 26 **INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS**

27  
28  
29 On motion of Representative Weissmann, the rules were suspended and  
30 the following resolutions were given immediate consideration.  
31

32 **SJR09-002** by Senator(s) Shaffer B., Groff, Penry; also  
33 Representative(s) Benefield, Court, Massey, Vaad--  
34 Concerning employee salary ranges for the First Regular  
35 Session of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly.  
36

37 (Printed and placed in member's file)  
38

39 On motion of Representative Benefield, the resolution was **adopted** by  
40 **viva voce** vote.  
41

42 **SJR09-003** by Senator(s) Shaffer B., Groff, Penry; also  
43 Representative(s) Weissmann, Carroll T., May--  
44 Concerning a joint session of the Senate and the House of  
45 Representatives for the purpose of hearing a message from  
46 the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and appointing a  
47 committee to escort the Chief Justice.  
48

49 (Printed and placed in member's file)  
50

51 On motion of Representative Weissmann, the resolution was **adopted** by  
52 **viva voce** vote.  
53

54 The Speaker appointed Representatives Levy, Chairman, Miklosi, and  
55 Roberts pursuant to the resolution.  
56

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1 House in recess for Joint Session.

2

3

4

5

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**JOINT SESSION**

6

7 The Joint Session was called to order by the Senate Majority Leader,  
8 Brandon C. Shaffer.

9

10 On motion of Senator Brandon C. Shaffer, the morning roll call of the  
11 Senate was made the roll call of the Joint Session.

12

13 Present--33.

14 Excused--Senator Gibbs--1.

15 Vacancy--1.

16

17 On motion of Representative Weissmann, the morning roll call of the  
18 House was made the roll call of the Joint Session.

19

20 Present--65.

21

22 The Speaker declared a quorum present and as is customary presented the  
23 gavel to the President of the Senate to preside over the joint session.

24

25 President Groff requested the Joint Committee, composed of Senators  
26 Schwartz and Kester, and Representatives Merrifield, Chairman, Labuda,  
27 and Looper to escort the Governor from the Governor's Chambers to the  
28 rostrum.

29

30 Chief Sergeant-at-Arms Suman announced the arrival of the Honorable  
31 Bill Ritter, Governor of the State of Colorado.

32

33 The Joint Committee escorted the Governor to the rostrum where he  
34 addressed the Joint Session.

35

36

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**ADDRESS BY THE HONORABLE  
Bill Ritter**

37

38

39

40 **Introduction**

41

42 Good morning. Two years ago, I stood outside this Capitol and delivered my  
43 inaugural address, sharing my belief in the sacred trust we hold with the people of  
44 Colorado.

45

46 "It is a solemn duty to serve as an elected official," I said then. "We hold a sacred trust  
47 with the people who elect us. We must honor that trust through our hard work, and  
48 through our commitment to an open and honest relationship with the people of this  
49 state. Every day we must work to maintain the trust conferred upon us by the oaths we  
50 swear this morning."

51

52 Serving as governor has only reinforced my belief that holding public office is indeed  
53 a sacred trust; a trust relationship not only with those who voted for us, but for *all* of  
54 the people of our house districts, our senate districts, and yes, of the entire state.  
55 Elections determine who has the privilege to serve, and with this privilege comes the  
56 responsibility to honor this trust relationship, which dictates that we serve for all.

1 Today, as we, and the rest of the country, navigate this global economic downturn,  
2 honoring that trust relationship is more important than ever before. It's important to  
3 families who need health care, to small businesses struggling to meet payroll, and to  
4 students juggling multiple jobs to pay for college. It's important to all those who live  
5 at the margins, who are unemployed, or under-employed, and who need a safety net  
6 until the turnaround comes, and it will come.

7  
8 In this legislative session, in this tough economy, we'll need to make tough choices,  
9 we'll need to collaborate and listen to one another as we chart a Colorado way  
10 forward. Our challenges need more than just Democratic ideas or Republican ideas.  
11 We need uniquely Colorado ideas.

12  
13 Adversity is nothing new to Colorado, and neither is resilience. After last May's  
14 tornado, the people of Windsor pulled together and found a way to rebuild. Just like  
15 the people of Windsor, the people of Colorado will come together and overcome this  
16 economic crisis. And like the Windsor High School Marching Band, which will  
17 represent Colorado at President-elect Obama's inaugural parade, our state will march  
18 ahead.

19  
20 Yes, we face many obstacles. But a new president and a new year bring the promise  
21 of change and opportunity. Together with the new administration, together with our  
22 new Senators and our entire Congressional delegation, we will create a stronger  
23 partnership with the federal government and work side-by-side on the challenges we  
24 face.

25  
26 President Groff, Speaker Carroll, honorable members of the House and the Senate,  
27 thank you for allowing me to deliver my third State of the State Address here in this  
28 chamber.

29  
30 I look forward to working with all of you and your new leadership team. With  
31 Terrance Carroll as your Speaker, you have made history two years in a row. With  
32 Representative Curry and Senator Penry in leadership, you will have strong voices not  
33 just for the Western Slope, but for all of rural Colorado.

34  
35 To our many distinguished guests: Lt. Gov. O'Brien, Treasurer Kennedy, Attorney  
36 General Suthers and Secretary of State-designee Buescher ...

37  
38 Mayor Hickenlooper, newly-elected county commissioners, tribal chairs, members of  
39 the Supreme Court and Board of Education ...

40  
41 To members of my Cabinet, members of the public and all those outside this chamber,  
42 thank you for this privilege.

43  
44 And especially to my wife and Colorado's first lady, Jeannie ... thank you for  
45 everything you do for the people of Colorado, and for our own family. Two of our four  
46 kids, Tally and Sam; my mother, Ethel; and many of my siblings are here this morning,  
47 too.

48  
49 **Achievements**

50  
51 The path forward will require tough choices and great cooperation. We are feeling  
52 pain. But Colorado is still better off than many other states because we've made smart  
53 investments and steady progress the past two years, progress that will help us weather  
54 the immediate storm and create sustainable economic growth for the future.

55  
56 In my first State of the State, I said the New Energy Economy must be our calling card

1 to the future. In two short years, we've created thousands of jobs, quadrupled our wind  
2 power and made Colorado a global research leader. We introduced the New Energy  
3 Economy to our president-elect and the rest of the country, and now we're introducing  
4 it to the entire world.

5

6 We've launched the boldest education reforms in decades, because we should give  
7 every child the chance to walk through the same doors of opportunity that you and I  
8 walked through.

9

10 We've crafted an economic-development strategy geared toward knowledge-based  
11 industries of the future. And through our Jobs Cabinet and community colleges, we  
12 are aligning the needs of businesses with workforce development and training  
13 programs.

14

15 We're providing greater protections for Colorado's air, land, water, wildlife and  
16 communities.

17

18 We're reforming Colorado's health care system, enrolling 30,000 more uninsured kids  
19 and 10,000 working parents in Child Health Plan-Plus and Medicaid.

20

21 We're greening government, and saving on energy costs.

22

23 We're making state government work better for taxpayers, taking a more common-  
24 sense approach and saving hundreds of millions of dollars, including \$600,000 simply  
25 by renegotiating cell phone contracts. \$600,000 may not sound like a lot, but every  
26 dollar counts.

27

28 We're making Colorado safer through our crime-prevention and anti-recidivism  
29 initiatives, which will save taxpayers tens of millions of dollars.

30

31 And we're making government more modern and transparent by putting more services  
32 online – and soon, working with Treasurer Kennedy's Office and Representative  
33 Marostica, we'll have the state's checkbook online.

34

35 We have, together, Democrats and Republicans, made our state stronger.

36

### 37 **Economic Challenges and Opportunities**

38

39 Over the past two years, I've seen the promise of Colorado in every corner of our great  
40 state, in classrooms, in research labs, in rural and urban Colorado alike. I've been all  
41 across this vast state, because every place and every person in Colorado matters.

42

43 I also know that every place and every person in Colorado is, one way or another,  
44 affected by the downturn. Mothers and fathers are losing their jobs. Members of my  
45 own extended family have been laid off or otherwise seriously affected.

46

47 We can't underestimate the pain a family feels when there's a job loss. It affects  
48 everything, every decision ... from being able to pay for groceries or new clothes to  
49 being able to afford health care or college.

50

51 I know what it's like to grow up in a family affected by layoffs. My dad was a dry-land  
52 wheat farmer, and he also was a construction worker and heavy equipment operator.  
53 There were winters when there wasn't work to be found. There were times when my  
54 mother put dinner on the table using food stamps for me and my 11 brothers and  
55 sisters.

56

1 This session, we must do everything we can to help those who are struggling, to keep  
2 Coloradans in their jobs, and to keep families in their homes.

3  
4 The federal government recently approved our \$34 million Neighborhood Stabilization  
5 proposal to help communities and families recover from foreclosure. I look forward  
6 to working with Senator Carroll and Representative Ferrandino on our plan to help  
7 struggling homeowners get their finances in order and avoid foreclosure.

8  
9 Families and businesses throughout Colorado are facing challenges they haven't seen  
10 in generations. Families are making different decisions, setting different priorities, and  
11 sacrificing. Just like every family in Colorado, we'll need to make tough choices here  
12 in the Capitol as well.

13  
14 Over the next 120 days, our collective focus must be on protecting businesses, creating  
15 jobs, and managing the budget. I will look at everything we work on this session  
16 through the lens of the economy – of what's responsible now and what's best for the  
17 long run.

18  
19 **Fiscal Responsibility**

20  
21 Our first order of business will be to prudently manage the budget.

22  
23 We made steady progress in 2007 and 2008 in education, health care and human  
24 services. As we now undertake the hard work of budget-cutting, we must try to protect  
25 those gains and position ourselves for a quick recovery.

26  
27 Since early fall, we've taken a number of steps to shore up our fiscal house: imposing  
28 a hiring freeze, stopping several new construction projects and halting non-essential  
29 spending requests.

30  
31 Since then, I've directed my department heads to find even deeper cuts, and next  
32 week, my budget office will begin presenting the JBC with the first round of  
33 recommended reductions.

34  
35 Senator Keller, I look forward to working with you, the JBC and the legislature on  
36 what will be a collaborative and bipartisan effort. We'll work to protect life, safety and  
37 public health, and we won't abandon our obligation to provide safety-net services.

38  
39 However, we will touch many other important public services. This will be hard on the  
40 public and hard on public servants like those of you here today: lawmakers, judges,  
41 mayors, county commissioners and school board members.

42  
43 Unlike the previous recession, our options are more limited this time. Therefore,  
44 *everything* will be on the table. We'll look at base budget cuts, cash-fund transfers,  
45 program changes and the state's reserve. We've asked state employees for their ideas,  
46 and we will ask them to sacrifice, too. As I announced before, employee compensation  
47 will be part of the solution.

48  
49 As I've said before, a budget is a moral document that should reflect our values.  
50 We've used the budget the past two years to set Colorado on a forward path. Now, in  
51 these tough times, we must focus on the bare fundamentals and delay some  
52 investments we know will make Colorado stronger.

53  
54 Delay does not mean forever, and we can't stop thinking about long-term investments  
55 in human and physical capital – in education and research and innovation – because  
56 those are the things that will help us rise up quicker than ever, and stronger than ever.

1 There is also an opportunity here – a chance to address TABOR and the constitutional  
2 and statutory straightjacket that makes modern, sensible and value-based budgeting  
3 an impossibility. Last year, former House Speaker Romanoff started the conversation,  
4 and we need to keep it alive. We need to talk about life after Ref C – whether and  
5 when to extend it. We have a chance to find a better way forward, a Colorado way  
6 forward.

7  
8 **Economic Development**

9  
10 Despite our challenges, Colorado’s economy is still in better shape than many other  
11 states. We’re fourth in the U.S. for venture capital funding, fifth for creating new  
12 companies and first for women-owned businesses. We have one of the best-educated  
13 workforces in the country, and among the highest concentrations of scientists,  
14 engineers and high-tech workers.

15  
16 We’ve crafted a focused economic-development strategy that will help us protect what  
17 we’ve got and pave the way for future growth. We’re holding small-business finance  
18 forums around the state. We’re partnering with Mayor Hickenlooper and other local  
19 officials to jump-start the metro area’s economy.

20  
21 When I and the nation’s governors met with President-elect Obama in November, he  
22 said it would take courage and a strong federal-state partnership to get America back  
23 on the path to long-term prosperity: “Any true solution will not come from  
24 Washington alone; it will come from the White House and the State House working  
25 together every step of the way.”

26  
27 My administration is helping to design the president-elect’s economic recovery  
28 package from the bottom up.

29  
30 We’re also working closely with your Committee on Job Creation and Economic  
31 Growth. Thank you Senators Schwartz, Heath and Vigil and Representatives Rice and  
32 Marostica for sponsoring our job-creation and economic-growth bills.

33  
34 By reviving the Colorado Credit Reserve Program, we can give thousands of small  
35 businesses vital access to credit and capital. Here’s an example: Sid Huddleston runs  
36 a sporting good shop in Pueblo. He sells soccer uniforms, and every winter he gets a  
37 short-term loan to get through the slow part of the year.

38  
39 Sid is a Vietnam War veteran. He’s never been denied a loan before, until now. He’s  
40 depleted his retirement savings, and if he doesn’t get help soon, he’ll have to close his  
41 doors for good. The Credit Program could be the answer for businesses like his.

42  
43 By enacting House Bill 1001, the job-creation tax credit I announced last month, we  
44 can level the playing field with other states when it comes to attracting new companies  
45 and new jobs.

46  
47 Colorado has never been able to compete against other states in terms of incentives.  
48 This job-creation tax credit won’t just be a new tool in the toolbox – it will be *a whole*  
49 *new toolbox*. Just the fact that we’re considering this incentive has put us back in  
50 contention for yet another New Energy Economy wind manufacturing plant.

51  
52 **New Energy Economy**

53  
54 Two years ago, I talked about the New Energy Economy as a way to build wind farms  
55 in wheat fields and make our universities research leaders in renewable energy. Today,  
56 our New Energy Economy is not just creating a culture of sustainability, it’s fulfilling

1 the promise of a new energy future and a new economic future for all of America.  
2  
3 I'm working with our congressional delegation and the incoming Obama  
4 administration to ensure the federal recovery package includes funds for transmission  
5 lines and other clean-energy projects.  
6  
7 The New Energy Economy is a place where we must keep creating new jobs, new  
8 innovations and new opportunities. This session, we also must continue bringing the  
9 New Energy Economy home for ordinary Coloradans.  
10  
11 We'll be introducing legislation with Representative Merrifield and Senator Carroll  
12 requiring that all new single-family homes come with a "solar-ready" option. Today,  
13 homebuyers already have choices when it comes to countertops, paint colors and  
14 flooring. People should have similar options when it comes to sustainability.  
15  
16 I'm equally excited about another of Senator Carroll's proposals, the Renewable  
17 Energy Financing Act, which will facilitate financing for residential and business  
18 clean-energy projects.  
19  
20 My office also is working with Treasurer Kennedy, Representative Andy Kerr and  
21 Senator Schwartz on a plan for wind and solar projects on schools in rural Colorado.  
22 This will help reduce schools' energy costs so they can focus their dollars where they  
23 belong – in the classroom.  
24  
25 And we are moving forward with Representative Apuan on proposal that would  
26 require home-sellers to disclose their energy bills for the past 12 months, to help  
27 prospective buyers anticipate their monthly expenses.  
28  
29 My thanks to lawmakers on both sides of the aisle for sponsoring and supporting these  
30 bills.  
31  
32 My thanks also to Colorado's traditional energy sector, which is a key part of our New  
33 Energy Economy.  
34  
35 We have some of the richest natural gas reserves in the nation. We must ensure  
36 Colorado's natural gas continues to meet America's energy needs today and serves as  
37 a clean-burning bridge fuel for tomorrow. That's why I'm working with industry and  
38 others to include funds for gas pipelines in the federal recovery package.  
39  
40 This session, I'm asking you to finalize rules, passed unanimously by the oil and gas  
41 commission, to improve the quality of energy development in Colorado. I'm proud  
42 of the commission's work. They listened to every interested party and found the right  
43 balance. With these rules, Colorado companies and Colorado workers can  
44 successfully drill for natural gas, while our air, land, water, wildlife and communities  
45 are protected.  
46  
47 **Transportation**  
48  
49 Transportation funding also will be a big part of the federal economic recovery  
50 package.  
51  
52 For every billion dollars of transportation construction, we protect or create at least  
53 35,000 jobs. We've put together a list of 160 shovel-ready highway, transit and  
54 aviation projects, worth about \$1.4 billion. The federal piece of this is vital. It will  
55 create immediate jobs and help us build a modern transportation system for the future.  
56 But it's just a first step. Those are just one-time dollars.



1 We have a much bigger problem. We're trying to run a 21<sup>st</sup>-century transportation  
2 system on a 20<sup>th</sup>-century funding model that's no longer sustainable.

3  
4 Even with federal recovery dollars, we don't have the resources to repair the 126  
5 structurally deficient bridges in Colorado. We don't have the resources to maintain  
6 aging and congested highways. And we don't have the resources to give commuters  
7 the transit choices they demand and deserve.

8  
9 This session, even in this tough economy, we need to find a new way forward.  
10 Eighteen months ago, I convened a bipartisan transportation panel to examine the  
11 problem and offer solutions. The panel has done its job; now it's time for us to do  
12 ours.

13  
14 Over the past few months, my administration has been building a bipartisan coalition  
15 of business, civic and government leaders to support an omnibus transportation bill  
16 called FASTER – Funding Advancements for Surface Transportation and Economic  
17 Recovery.

18  
19 This bill will establish a new transportation vision for the future – a vision that creates  
20 jobs, a vision we can implement in stages, and a vision that's both bold and realistic  
21 about what we can afford. This will take political courage and strong leadership,  
22 because this will not be free. It will require asking people to invest more in a down  
23 economy.

24  
25 For the short-term, we'll need to put safety and maintenance first, by looking at fees  
26 and bonding to fix old bridges and old roadways. For the mid-term, we'll need to be  
27 even more creative, looking at public-private partnerships and other financing options.  
28 And for the long-term, we'll need to craft a sustainable funding formula that's  
29 responsible, fair and affordable.

30  
31 I look forward to continuing the dialogue this session, and I offer my thanks to  
32 Representatives McFadyen and Rice and Senators Shaffer, Gibbs and Penry for their  
33 leadership on this pressing issue.

### 34 35 **Education**

36  
37 While investments in the New Energy Economy and transportation are essential, the  
38 best economic strategy is an education strategy.

39  
40 Colorado already has a lot to brag about, including one of the best-educated  
41 workforces in the country. But we can – we must – do better. Our achievement gaps  
42 are still too wide. Too few Colorado kids are graduating from college, and for the past  
43 10 years, we've made virtually no measurable improvements in student learning.

44  
45 The P-20 Council, under the wise leadership of Barbara O'Brien, continues to offer  
46 thoughtful reform proposals, and you will see several of those ideas this session. We  
47 also will continue to implement Senate Bill 212, the bipartisan Colorado Achievement  
48 Plan for Kids, among the most progressive reforms in the nation.

49  
50 Certainly, it's hard to talk about funding new reforms in a bad economy. But we can't  
51 shortchange hope. So this session we will bring you a statewide concurrent-enrollment  
52 plan that will give high school students an opportunity to earn college credits while  
53 finishing high school.

54  
55

1 Colorado currently has a handful of different laws governing concurrent enrollment.  
2 In fact, many of you voted in favor of Senate Bill 148 in 2007. Now it's time to take  
3 this effort to the next level.

4  
5 We are proposing a comprehensive, statewide approach that will guide high school  
6 students who are taking college courses. This is an efficient student-centered concept  
7 that will give kids a reason to stay in school *and* accelerate their progress toward  
8 degrees and workforce-readiness.

9  
10 It sets high, rigorous standards while keeping college affordable and accessible. It  
11 addresses two of my major education goals: cutting the dropout rate in half and  
12 doubling the number of college degrees earned by Colorado students.

13  
14 Now, more than ever, we must focus on policies like this, which will help us rebound  
15 from the downturn and put us back on the path to prosperity. Thank you,  
16 Representative Merrifield and Senator Williams, for carrying this bill.

### 17 18 **Health Care**

19  
20 Health care is also an area where we must stay focused. Fortunately, President-elect  
21 Obama has made health-care reform a priority. He knows state health-care plans and  
22 safety-net providers must be part of the recovery package, because, as more people  
23 lose their jobs and health insurance, that's a cost burden all of us must shoulder.

24  
25 Over the past two years, we've made steady progress in Colorado with our Building  
26 Blocks to Health Care Reform initiative. This year, my health agenda will focus on a  
27 new strategy to move more than 100,000 Coloradans off the rolls of the uninsured.

28  
29 For the past eight months, my office has worked closely with hospitals across the state  
30 on a strategy to bring in more federal Medicaid funding – significantly more – without  
31 requiring additional general fund appropriations. The process is simple and already in  
32 use in several states.

33  
34 Hospitals would pay a fee based on their patient revenue. This revenue would then be  
35 used to leverage matching federal dollars. Finally, the new resources would be used  
36 to reduce underpayments to hospitals – stabilizing their rates – and to provide  
37 coverage to our most vulnerable populations.

38  
39 My thanks to the Colorado Hospital Association, Bill Lindsay, Don Kortz, Senator  
40 Keller and Representative Riesberg, for their leadership on this plan.

41  
42 During these difficult economic times, when more and more families are struggling  
43 to access health care, our provider fee partnership with the hospitals is a bright light  
44 that will not only help the uninsured, but slow the escalating cost of health care for  
45 struggling businesses as well.

### 46 47 **Conclusion**

48  
49 As I said at the start, we must honor our sacred trust with voters by working together  
50 to make the tough choices that lie ahead. We must overcome these challenges for the  
51 short-term and aggressively pursue new opportunities for the long-term, opportunities  
52 that can have national and international impact.

53  
54 In addition to my travels throughout Colorado, I've visited solar plants in Spain, seen  
55 shrinking polar ice sheets in the Arctic, and breathed the polluted air in China. These  
56 experiences are sharp reminders that Colorado companies can, and already are,

1 addressing issues like climate change and clean energy. Investing in Colorado  
2 technologies and innovations will create a better future here at home, and also around  
3 the globe.

4  
5 And this isn't just about *investing* in the future. This is about *inventing* the future –  
6 and not just a new energy future, but a new medical future, a new aerospace future, a  
7 new technology future.

8  
9 This is not about yesterday. This is about seizing the opportunities of today to realize  
10 the possibilities of tomorrow. When I was in Japan a couple months ago, I was  
11 reminded of something the politician Youzan Uesugi said 200 years ago, “The  
12 government of now exists to prosperously link the nation of our ancestors to that of  
13 our children.”

14  
15 Those who came before us here in Colorado were wise enough to plant wheat fields,  
16 stake their mining claims, carve railroads and highways through the mountains, and  
17 build Denver International Airport. Even in a global economic crisis, you and I – the  
18 government of now – must realize the next great opportunity that will link us to our  
19 children and our grandchildren.

20  
21 One hundred years from now, I want Coloradans to look back and see this as the  
22 turning point – the point when we set aside partisan politics and worked together as  
23 Coloradans and built a New Energy Economy, a modern transportation system, and  
24 the country's best education system.

25  
26 In his election night remarks, President-elect Obama reminded us of the words of  
27 Lincoln: “We are not enemies, but friends ... Though passion may have strained, it  
28 must not break our bonds of affection.”

29  
30 We will need to work together as responsible leaders to make the difficult choices  
31 necessary to weather this storm. We must not give in to partisan politics. We must not  
32 let cynicism win out over hope. We must not let fear win out over faith.

33  
34 Future generations will look back to see if we let petty differences stand in the way of  
35 steady progress, if we looked past our own differences to rebuild the economy, to put  
36 people back to work and to get this state and this country moving again.

37  
38 The people of Colorado are counting on us to govern well. We have been given the  
39 privilege of serving, the responsibility of charting a clear path forward. Let's make  
40 good on the Colorado Promise, together.

41  
42 Thank you, and may God bless Colorado.

43  
44  
45 The Joint Committee escorted the Governor from the Chambers.

46  
47 On motion of Representative Weissmann, the Governor's message was  
48 ordered printed in the House Journal.

49  
50  
51 On motion of Senator Brandon C. Shaffer, the Joint Session was  
52 dissolved.

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54  
55 House reconvened.

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2  
3 **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**  
4 **First Reading**

5 The following bills were read by title and referred to the committees  
6 indicated:

7  
8 **HB09-1077** by Representative(s) Schafer S.; also Senator(s) Newell--  
9 Concerning a prohibition on the retail sale of products  
10 containing tobacco by use of a self-service display.  
11 Committee on Business Affairs and Labor

12  
13 **HB09-1078** by Representative(s) Ryden; also Senator(s) Hodge--  
14 Concerning training for foster parents in regard to  
15 individualized education programs.  
16 Committee on Education

17  
18 **HB09-1079** by Representative(s) Vaad, Marostica--Concerning  
19 annexing adjacent municipalities to existing junior college  
20 districts.  
21 Committee on Local Government

22  
23 **HB09-1080** by Representative(s) Marostica; also Senator(s) Williams--  
24 Concerning a grant of qualified immunity to building code  
25 officials rendering assistance during a disaster emergency.  
26 Committee on Judiciary

27  
28 **HB09-1081** by Representative(s) Looper; also Senator(s) Morse--  
29 Concerning an increase in the length of the statute of  
30 limitations for vehicular homicide.  
31 Committee on Judiciary

32  
33 **HB09-1082** by Representative(s) Peniston; also Senator(s) Tochtrop--  
34 Concerning recording of public meetings of school district  
35 boards of education.  
36 Committee on Education

37  
38 **HB09-1083** by Representative(s) McFadyen, Pace; also Senator(s)  
39 Tapia, Penry--Concerning the authority of the state to enter  
40 into lease-purchase agreements for commercial space for  
41 the department of personnel in Pueblo county, Colorado.  
42 Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

43  
44 **HB09-1084** by Representative(s) Gagliardi; also Senator(s) Tochtrop--  
45 Concerning procedures for the review of providers under  
46 the state medical assistance program.  
47 Committee on Health and Human Services

48  
49 **HB09-1085** by Representative(s) Rice; also Senator(s) Heath--  
50 Concerning the regulation of mortgage loan originators,  
51 and, in connection therewith, modifying the "Mortgage  
52 Broker Licensing Act" to conform to the federal "Secure  
53 and Fair Enforcement for Mortgage Licensing Act of  
54 2008" and exempting certain financial institutions from the  
55 list of prohibited practices under the act.  
56 Committee on Business Affairs and Labor

1 **HB09-1086** by Representative(s) McGihon, Green, Frangas; also  
2 Senator(s) Boyd--Concerning continuing professional  
3 competency of certain mental health professionals.  
4 Committee on Health and Human Services

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**LAY OVER OF CALENDAR ITEM**

10 On motion of Representative Stephens, the following item on the  
11 Calendar was laid over until January 9, 2009, retaining place on  
12 Calendar:

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Consideration of Resolution--**HR09-1005**.

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On motion of Representative Stephens, the House adjourned until  
10:00 a.m., January 9, 2009.

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24  
25  
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Approved:  
TERRANCE D. CARROLL,  
Speaker

Attest:  
MARILYN EDDINS,  
Chief Clerk