

Monday, March 19, 2010

Draft Resolution – State Capitol Dome

Christine Staberg

303 868 8979

House Joint Resolution 10- xxxx

Concerning essential restoration of the cast iron structure of the Colorado State Capitol Dome and endorsement of a partnership between the State of Colorado and Colorado Preservation Inc., to implement a fundraising campaign for this purpose that will include cause-related marketing and sponsorships.

WHEREAS, Colorado's gold-plated Capitol Dome is the center of Colorado state government and is an iconic symbol of unparalleled historical significance in the state; and,

WHEREAS, the Colorado State Capitol Dome, which is more than 100 years old, has fallen into serious disrepair in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the cast iron architectural details attached to the superstructure and infrastructure that forms the Lantern, Dome, Upper and Lower Observation Levels, and Drum Base of the structure are rusting to the point that an architectural inspection team declared "the potential loss of strength as a result of deterioration is a significant hazard to the building and its occupants; and

WHEREAS, the public observation deck, which has been a destination for generations of Colorado school children, citizens and visitors, has been closed since a nearly ten-pound chunk of cast iron fell from the Dome, prompting work crews to install netting in order to catch falling debris; and

WHEREAS, The State's budget constraints have significantly impeded the ability of the State to fund the needed repairs, which are estimated at between \$11 and \$30 million; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado State Capitol Dome was recognized in 2010 as one of Colorado's Most Endangered Places by Colorado Preservation, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Preservation Inc., a nonprofit, statewide historic preservation organization that provides assistance in historic preservation to Colorado communities through a statewide network of information, education, training, expertise, and advocacy, has indicated willingness to partner with the State of Colorado in a campaign to raise the funds necessary to repair the Capitol Dome; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Preservation, Inc.'s vision is to create a broad-based privately funded initiative that does not rely on the use of government/public funds; and

Monday, March 19, 2010

WHEREAS, the proposed effort is likely to include cause-related marketing and sponsorships, outreach to Colorado school children, a grassroots public campaign, and grants and gifts; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that this effort be launched as soon as possible in order to ensure the safety of those who work in and visit the Capitol, and to ensure the preservation of this important historic public building;

THEREFORE be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That we, the members of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly, acknowledge the importance and urgency of the restoration of the Capitol Dome; and

That we appreciate the efforts of Colorado Preservation Inc. to bring attention to, and support the fundraising efforts for, the necessary restoration of the Capitol Dome; and

That we hereby endorse a fundraising effort by Colorado Preservation Inc. with input from the Capitol Building Advisory Committee and the Capital Development Committee that will include cause-related marketing and sponsorships; and

* That we hereby support the use of any protective covering over the Capitol Dome and related superstructure during construction for the purpose of displaying artistic renderings of the project, and imagery that celebrates the history, people and natural beauty of the State of Colorado so as to promote public support for the project and to honor major sponsors of the project in a tasteful manner, subject to ~~input from~~ [or input from] the Capitol Building Advisory Committee and the Capital Development Committee.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to: Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.; the Mayor and City Council of Denver; the membership of Colorado Preservation Inc.; the board of Historic Denver, Inc.; the board of Historic Boulder, Inc.; the board of Historic Pueblo, Inc.; the board of Historic Georgetown, Inc.; the board of Historic Douglas County, Inc.; the board of Historic Routt County!, Inc.; the Mountains and Plains Office of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; Colorado Historical Society; Larry Friedberg, Colorado State Architect; Lance Sheperd, Manager, Design and Construction Programs, Office of the State Architect; Civic Center Park Conservancy; Senator Mark Udall, Senator Michael Bennet; Congressman John Salazar, Congressman Jared Polis; Congressman Ed Perlmutter; Congressman Doug Lamborn; Congressman Mike Coffman; Congresswoman Diana DeGette; and Congresswoman Betsy Markey.