



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 12-044

BY SENATOR(S) Grantham, Aguilar, Bacon, Boyd, Brophy, Cadman, Carroll, Foster, Giron, Guzman, Harvey, Heath, Hodge, Hudak, Jahn, Johnston, King K., King S., Lambert, Lundberg, Mitchell, Morse, Neville, Newell, Nicholson, Renfroe, Roberts, Scheffel, Schwartz, Spence, Steadman, Tochtrop, White, Williams S., Shaffer B.;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Becker, Barker, Bradford, Brown, Coram, Court, Ferrandino, Fields, Fischer, Gerou, Holbert, Kerr A., Kerr J., Massey, McCann, Murray, Pace, Schafer S., Soper, Swalm, Swerdfeger, Todd, Vigil, Wilson, McNulty.

CONCERNING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARKANSAS VALLEY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY.

WHEREAS, The Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility opened in July 1987 and marks its 25th anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Located in Crowley County, the Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility was completed at a cost of \$43 million and is a mixed-custody correctional facility designed to hold 1,007 adult males; and

WHEREAS, The facility employs 323 full-time staff members, over 70% of whom currently live within the Arkansas Valley, an increase of more than 50% from a year ago; and

WHEREAS, The increase in local employment in the Arkansas Valley is a direct result of the facility's central role in absorbing staff from the decommissioning of the Fort Lyon facility; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the facility states that it "is a proud organization of excellence, whose legacy has withstood the test of time. We are committed to the safe and secure environment for all, working

together as a cohesive team of highly trained correctional professionals who encourage offender participation in programmatic opportunities"; and

WHEREAS, The facility offers a broad range of educational and vocational programs as well as mental health and recreational activities for offenders to make positive behavioral changes and become law-abiding citizens; and

WHEREAS, Not only does the Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility contribute millions of dollars each year to the economy of southeastern Colorado, but the entire state also benefits from the facility, which provides best practices in offender management as well as fiscal accountability to the citizens of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Due to the dedication of many people, including former State Representative Elwood Gillis, former State Senators Jim Rizzuto, Ron Strahle, and Kathy Arnold, and community members Ralph Grantham, Dick Berg, and Shannon Torgler, the facility is now marking its 25th anniversary; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-eighth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, recognize the Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility for its 25 years of service to the State of Colorado.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the Honorable John Hickenlooper, Governor of Colorado; Tom Clements, Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections; former State Representative Elwood Gillis; former State Senator Ron Strahle;

former State Senator Kathy Arnold; former State Senator and current President of Otero Junior College, Jim Rizzuto; and the members of the Board of County Commissioners for Crowley County.

Brandon C. Shaffer
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Frank McNulty
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES