

**Second Regular Session  
Sixty-eighth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. R12-0922.01 Kiki Miller x4349

**SJR12-038**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Tochtrop,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Soper,**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 12-038**

101     **CONCERNING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF WILDLIFE AND SPORT FISH**  
102             **RESTORATION PROGRAMS.**

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1             WHEREAS, More than a century ago, hunters, anglers, and  
2     trappers were among the first conservationists who realized America's  
3     natural resources were in peril and could not sustain unregulated harvest  
4     and habitat destruction; and

5             WHEREAS, Hunters, anglers, and trappers took it upon  
6     themselves to support laws that stopped excessive harvest of fish and  
7     wildlife, established game and fish agencies to protect fish, wildlife, and  
8     their habitats, and supported special fishing and hunting license fees to  
9     help fund efforts to provide healthy natural resources for future  
10    generations; 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, Upon realizing that license fees alone were  
2 insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations,  
3 hunters, anglers, and trappers supported excise taxes on firearms,  
4 ammunition, and archery, hunting, and fishing equipment to raise  
5 additional funds to support restoration and enhancement efforts of state  
6 agencies; and

7           WHEREAS, This user-pay, public-benefit system became known  
8 as the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs that began 75 years  
9 ago with the passage of the "Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of  
10 1937", which was bolstered with the passage of the "Federal Aid in Sport  
11 Fish Restoration Act of 1950" and further expanded with the passage of  
12 the Wallop-Breaux amendment to the "Federal Aid in Sport Fish and  
13 Restoration Act of 1950" in 1984; and

14           WHEREAS, The combined contribution of the Wildlife and Sport  
15 Fish Restoration Programs to state fish and wildlife agencies exceeds \$13  
16 billion since the first year money was distributed to the states in 1939,  
17 more than any other single conservation effort in American history, which  
18 constitute, collectively, the American system of conservation funding; and

19           WHEREAS, Colorado has received over \$340 million in  
20 conservation funding since the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration  
21 Programs' inception; and

22           WHEREAS, The manufacturers of firearms, ammunition, and  
23 hunting, fishing, and boating equipment have collected excise taxes on  
24 firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, manufactured fishing tackle,  
25 electric trolling motors, marine electronics, and motorboat fuel and  
26 distributed these funds to the states through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife  
27 Service; and

28           WHEREAS, The manufacturers of firearms, ammunition, and  
29 hunting, fishing, and boating equipment have supported the Wildlife and  
30 Sport Fish Restoration Programs and continue to exhibit a spirit of  
31 cooperation with the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife; and

32           WHEREAS, The cooperative partnership between industry,  
33 hunters, anglers, trappers, boaters, recreational shooters, the U.S. Fish and  
34 Wildlife Service, and state natural resource agencies has resulted in the  
35 most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world,  
36 restoring populations from coast to coast; now, therefore,

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

3           That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, hereby:

4           (1) Recognize that the primary authority to protect and manage  
5           fish and wildlife in Colorado resides in the Colorado Division of Parks  
6           and Wildlife; and

7           (2) Recognize Colorado hunters, anglers, trappers, boaters,  
8           recreational shooters, and industry, the Colorado Division of Parks and  
9           Wildlife, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for their leading role in  
10          restoring healthy populations of fish, wildlife, and other natural resources,  
11          both game and nongame, to the abundance we see today through the  
12          Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs, in this the 75th anniversary  
13          year of America's greatest conservation effort, supported by the American  
14          system of conservation funding.

15          *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
16          to the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, the Colorado Division  
17          of Parks and Wildlife, the members of the Colorado Congressional  
18          Delegation, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.