

**First Regular Session  
Sixty-ninth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

LLS NO. R13-0876.01 Meghan O'Connor x4143

**HJR13-1018**

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**Brophy,**

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**House Committees**

**Senate Committees**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 13-1018**

101 **CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF MARCH 19, 2013, AS "NATIONAL**  
102 **AGRICULTURE DAY".**

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1           WHEREAS, Americans enjoy the safest, most abundant, and most  
2 affordable food supply in the world, thanks in large part to the efficiency  
3 and productivity of America's farm and ranch families; and

4           WHEREAS, As the world's population continues to grow from 7  
5 billion to 9 billion by 2045, farmers and ranchers are challenged with  
6 producing more food, feed, fiber, and fuel; and

7           WHEREAS, Today, 98% of all U.S. farms are family-owned, and  
8 each American farmer feeds more than 156 people, a dramatic increase  
9 from the 1960s, when each farmer fed a mere 25 people; 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.*

SENATE  
Final Reading  
March 19, 2013

HOUSE  
Final Reading  
March 19, 2013

1           WHEREAS, American consumers spend less than 10% of their  
2 annual income on food, less than any other developed nation, as  
3 American farmers and ranchers receive only 12 cents of every dollar  
4 spent on food; and

5           WHEREAS, American farmers and ranchers are the most capable  
6 and responsible providers for the safety, health, and well-being of their  
7 livestock; and

8           WHEREAS, The agriculture industry is the second largest industry  
9 in Colorado, supporting more than 173,000 jobs in Colorado and  
10 contributing \$41 billion to the state's economy; and

11           WHEREAS, Colorado was responsible for nearly \$1.8 billion of  
12 exported food and agricultural products in 2012; and

13           WHEREAS, Colorado agriculture contributes to national security  
14 by not only providing food and fiber, but also producing energy; and

15           WHEREAS, Colorado recognizes landowners whose livelihood  
16 depends upon the property they reside on, operate on, and care for as they  
17 work to provide the basic necessities for all from their land; and

18           WHEREAS, Colorado's agriculture industry requires an adequate,  
19 reliable work force in order to provide food from the field to the table;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Colorado's farms and ranches provide habitats for  
22 wildlife and open space as well as innovative and sustainable farming  
23 practices that ensure the protection of state resources; and

24           WHEREAS, Colorado's agriculture industry is extremely  
25 diversified in terms of value and production, including cattle, sheep, hogs,  
26 goats, bison, elk, eggs, wine grapes, fruit, vegetables, greenhouse and  
27 nursery products, honey, and aquaculture, as well as commodities  
28 including corn, wheat, and hay; and

29           WHEREAS, Colorado's agriculturists employ sound animal  
30 husbandry practices, which ensure that livestock remain healthy,  
31 productive, and content; and

32           WHEREAS, Colorado agriculture provides an estimated \$67.5

1 million annually to support the state's wildlife; and

2 WHEREAS, Colorado's farmers and ranchers are innovative  
3 entrepreneurs and business leaders who remain resilient in their  
4 dedication to the state's agriculture; and

5 WHEREAS, The protection of private property and the rights of  
6 landowners who provide wholesome, safe food to Americans and others  
7 worldwide is essential; and

8 WHEREAS, Farmers and ranchers are critical to Colorado  
9 agritourism, welcoming tourists from around the world and showing them  
10 all Colorado has to offer; and

11 WHEREAS, Losing agricultural land and water to other uses will  
12 result in overall negative impacts to the state's economy and a loss of food  
13 production vital to all Coloradans; and

14 WHEREAS, The week of March 17, 2013, through March 23,  
15 2013, is "National Agriculture Week"; now, therefore,

16 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth*  
17 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

18 That we, the members of the General Assembly, proudly recognize  
19 "National Agriculture Day" on March 19, 2013, in celebration of the  
20 many men and women who strengthen the nation's agriculture industry;  
21 promote a safe, high quality, and sustainable food supply; and protect  
22 consumers, the environment, and natural resources.

23 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
24 to the Honorable Governor, John Hickenlooper; Colorado Commissioner  
25 of Agriculture, John Salazar; and the members of the Colorado  
26 Congressional Delegation.