



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-1014

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Dean, Alexander, Bacon, Berry, Borodkin, Boyd, Cadman, Chavez, Clapp, Cloer, Coleman, Crane, Daniel, Decker, Fairbank, Fritz, Garcia, Groff, Grossman, Hefley, Hodge, Hoppe, Jahn, Jameson, Johnson, Kester, King, Larson, Lawrence, Lee, Mace, Madden, Marshall, Miller, Mitchell, Nuñez, Paschall, Plant, Ragsdale, Rhodes, Rippy, Romanoff, Saliman, Sanchez, Schultheis, Scott, Sinclair, Smith, Snook, Spence, Spradley, Stafford, Stengel, Swenson, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Vigil, Webster, Weddig, White, Williams S., Williams T., Witwer, and Young;

also SENATOR(S) Matsunaka, Anderson, Andrews, Arnold, Cairns, Chlouber, Dennis, Dyer (Arapahoe), Dyer (Durango), Evans, Fitz-Gerald, Gordon, Hagedorn, Hanna, Hernandez, Hillman, Lamborn, Linkhart, May, McElhany, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Reeves, Takis, Tate, Taylor, Teck, Thiebaut, Tupa, and Windels.

CONCERNING CLOSING THE LEARNING GAP.

WHEREAS, Education is the necessary passport to full participation in the opportunities available in American society; and

WHEREAS, Those opportunities may be seriously diminished for the young person who cannot obtain a personally satisfying or financially adequate job because he or she never received an adequate education; and

WHEREAS, If our constitutional republic is to endure and prosper, it cannot be a society that tolerates two systems of education - one of high expectations for children from affluent families and one of lower expectations for children of a lower socioeconomic status or of any minority group; and

WHEREAS, If Colorado is to be the best state in which to raise a child, then it must be so for all children; and

WHEREAS, Both Republican and Democrat governors and legislators have given us the tools to compel accountability on behalf of our children; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Governor Bill Owens and Colorado Attorney General Ken Salazar are Co-Chairs of Colorado's Closing the Learning Gap Coalition; now, therefore,

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

(1) That closing the learning gap is an important goal of Colorado's education reform program; and

(2) That the State Board of Education and the Department of Education are urged to take all appropriate steps to make closing the learning gap a central element of educational accountability in Colorado.

Doug Dean
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Stan Matsunaka
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Judith Rodrigue
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE