



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-1047

BY REPRESENTATIVES Alexander, Bacon, Boyd, Cloer, Coleman, Crane, Daniel, Hefley, Jahn, Jameson, Lee, Mace, Madden, Ragsdale, Romanoff, Sanchez, Schultheis, Tapia, Tochtrop, Vigil, Weddig, and Williams S.;

also SENATORS Dyer (Durango), and Hanna.

**CONCERNING ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE USE OF WORK
KEYS ASSESSMENTS IN COLORADO'S SCHOOLS.**

WHEREAS, It is crucial that all students develop the ability to make informed educational choices; and

WHEREAS, Multiple options for postsecondary education exist via universities, colleges, technical schools, apprenticeships, and job training programs that lead to employment; and

WHEREAS, Successful employment is an important indicator of educational effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, The state of Colorado is experiencing a shortage of skilled workers in many areas and the future economic growth of this state depends on a highly trained workforce; and

WHEREAS, The educational institutions of this state should help to fill the growing labor shortage by giving students an opportunity to enhance their employability and develop the skills necessary to succeed in a vocation in which they will be productive and will achieve personal satisfaction; and

WHEREAS, Students should know and be able to demonstrate the minimum skills necessary for successful employment; and

WHEREAS, Accountability measures are essential in determining the success of schools and students; and

WHEREAS, Work Keys is a national system developed by American College Testing that connects knowing with doing by assessing students' aptitude in eight essential workplace skills: Applied mathematics, applied technology, listening, locating information, observation, reading for information, teamwork, and writing; and

WHEREAS, Work Keys testing allows students to gauge how well prepared they are for typical entry-level jobs in fields that interest them and empowers students to utilize their educational opportunities to enhance their preparedness; and

WHEREAS, Work Keys testing helps to enhance the skill level of this state's workforce by encouraging partnerships, cooperation, and communication between educators, employers, labor organizations, and government agencies; 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:

That we, the members of the Sixty-third General Assembly of the state of Colorado, encourage schools and school districts to utilize ACT Work Keys in an effort to increase and assess students' workplace skills.

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