



### **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 01-1046**

**BY REPRESENTATIVES** Romanoff, Alexander, Boyd, Cloer, Fritz, Groff, Jameson, Johnson, Kester, Larson, Lawrence, Mace, Madden, Rippy, Sanchez, Sinclair, Stafford, Tapia, Vigil, Weddig, White, Williams T., Witwer, Bacon, Coleman, Daniel, Hodge, Jahn, Marshall, Miller, Plant, Ragsdale, Saliman, and Tochtrop;

**also SENATORS** Dyer (Durango), Fitz-Gerald, Taylor, Epps, Hagedorn, Hanna, Hernandez, Linkhart, Nichol, Perlmutter, Reeves, Tate, and Windels.

### **CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AFFORDABLE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR COLORADO.**

WHEREAS, A shortage of affordable housing for persons of low income may compel people to live under unsanitary, overcrowded, and unsafe conditions and is therefore detrimental to the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, The lack of affordable housing affects the ability of communities to maintain and develop viable and stable economies and the ability of persons of low income to overcome poverty and achieve economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, The lack of affordable housing in certain areas of the state has a negative effect upon the ability of employers in those areas to maintain an adequate work force; and

WHEREAS, The trend toward increasing housing prices in several areas of the state will continue to result in inadequate supplies of affordable housing for persons of low income; and

WHEREAS, The continued purchase of land for federal, state, county, municipal, higher education, and other public uses is thereby raising the cost of the remaining land; and

WHEREAS, It is in the public interest to maintain a diverse housing stock in order to preserve the diversity of housing opportunities for Colorado's residents, including persons of low income; 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 there is hereby created the affordable housing task force to meet after the First Regular Session of the Sixty-third General Assembly to determine the obstacles that low income families face in obtaining housing and to consider or recommend solutions that would address these obstacles. The affordable housing task force shall consider, but need not be limited to, the following:

(a) Incentives for builders and developers to include affordable housing units in development plans and proposals;

(b) Assistance for communities that pursue the acquisition, rehabilitation, or renovation of affordable housing that is available to persons of low income;

(c) Programs that provide financial assistance to persons of low income for home purchasing, down payment assistance, and rental assistance;

(d) Incentives or assistance to property owners who make housing units available and affordable for persons of low income;

(e) Methods to promote intergovernmental agreements between local governments that address the growing housing demand in urban and rural communities;

(f) Methods to foster the coordination and cooperation among the state, local governments, and private enterprises for the provision of adequate affordable housing;

(g) Evaluation and recognition of the negative effects of increased public purchase of private land on affordable housing opportunities;

(h) Evaluation of the negative effects of United States Housing and Urban Development Section 8 housing regulations on landlords and the burdens placed by such regulations on the owners of affected properties;

(i) State and local regulatory requirements that increase the costs of development;

(j) Methods to build an awareness among private companies that employ low-income labor of the need to actively provide housing for their employees as part of their employees' compensation; and

(k) Other programs or policies to reduce housing costs and increase the supply of affordable housing for persons of low income.

(2) That the interim committee shall consist of 6 members of the General Assembly. The Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate shall appoint the members of the task force no later than 30 days after the certification of funds pursuant to subsection (6) of this resolution has been made to the Speaker of the House of Representative and the President of the Senate. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall appoint members as follows:

(a) The Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, shall appoint 3 representatives, one of whom shall be named chair, and no more than 2 of whom shall be members of the same political party; and

(b) The President of the Senate shall appoint 2 senators, one of whom shall be named vice-chair, the Senate Minority Leader shall appoint one senator, and no more than 2 of the 3 shall be from the same political party.

(3) That the affordable housing task force shall invite representatives from state and local government, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and housing-related trade groups to participate in the meetings of the task force and to provide testimony, written comments, and other relevant data to the task force.

(4) That the affordable housing task force shall submit its written findings and recommendations in a report to the General Assembly no later than January 9, 2002.

(5) That the affordable housing task force shall meet at least 3 times beginning in June 2001, to fulfill its responsibilities in this study.

(6) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall designate a nonprofit or private organization as the custodian of the funds for the affordable housing task force. Such organization is authorized to receive and expend any funds necessary for the operation of the affordable housing task force. In addition, such organization shall prepare a budget for the operation of the task force. Prior to the expenditure of any moneys received, the organization shall transmit a copy of the operating budget to the Speaker of the House of Representative and the President of the Senate and shall certify that there is adequate funding available to cover the expenses identified in the operating budget.

(7) That any staff needed to assist the affordable housing task force in conducting its duties shall be provided by nonprofit agencies or private groups.

(8) That all costs incurred while conducting the study, including, but not limited to, the direct or indirect costs associated with the duties of the affordable housing task force, the costs of research and analysis, compensation for any nonprofit agency or private group that assist the task force by supplying staff support, and any expenses incurred or compensation received by members of the task force shall be paid by contributions, grants, services, and in-kind donations from private sources.

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Doug Dean  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Stan Matsunaka  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Judith Rodrigue  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
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Karen Goldman  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE