



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 09-042

BY SENATOR(S) Newell, Bacon, Boyd, Carroll M., Foster, Gibbs, Groff, Heath, Hodge, Hudak, Isgar, Keller, Romer, Sandoval, Schwartz, Shaffer B., Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Williams;  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Frangas, Apuan, Baumgardner, Benefield, Bradford, Casso, Court, Curry, Fischer, Gagliardi, Gardner B., Gerou, Hullinghorst, Judd, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr J., Labuda, Levy, Looper, Marostica, Massey, McCann, McFadyen, McKinley, Merrifield, Miklosi, Murray, Nikkel, Pace, Peniston, Pommer, Primavera, Priola, Rice, Riesberg, Roberts, Ryden, Scanlan, Schafer S., Solano, Soper, Stephens, Tipton, Todd, Vaad, Vigil, Waller, Weissmann, Carroll T.

CONCERNING THE VALUE OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION, AND,  
IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2009 AS  
"CONFLICT RESOLUTION MONTH".

WHEREAS, Conflict resolution encompasses mediation, arbitration, facilitation, collaborative decision-making, ombuds activities, and other responses to differences; and

WHEREAS, These conflict resolution processes empower individuals, families, communities, organizations, and businesses to foster communication and devise solutions that are acceptable to the needs and interests of all parties involved; and

WHEREAS, Conflict resolution is taught and practiced by citizens in many school systems, universities, and graduate programs throughout Colorado and the world as a way of solving disputes; and

WHEREAS, Community-based programs such as The Conflict Center in Denver and the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado work to strengthen local relationships by fairly and equitably resolving neighborhood and community conflicts and opening community dialogues based in reason and

mutual respect; and

WHEREAS, Professional associations of conflict mediators, including the Colorado Council of Mediators and Mediation Organizations, the Dispute Resolution Section of the Colorado Bar Association, and the Office of Dispute Resolution in the Colorado Judicial Branch, promote peaceful and creative resolutions to disputes; and

WHEREAS, Governor Bill Ritter, Jr. has proclaimed October 2009 to be Conflict Resolution Month in the state of Colorado; now, therefore,

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

(1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, join the Governor in recognizing October 2009 as Conflict Resolution Month in the state;

(2) That we invite Coloradans to create events that celebrate and promote the use of productive conflict resolution in their communities;

(3) That we call upon leaders across the state to use this month as an occasion to discuss the principles of conflict resolution in their schools, neighborhoods, congregations, and workplaces; and

(4) That we encourage every citizen of the state to reflect upon the conflicts present in his or her own life and to work responsibly to peacefully resolve those conflicts.

*Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.; Mike Roque, Director, Denver Office of Strategic Partnerships; Chuck Turner, Executive Director, Colorado Bar Association; Gregory L. Moore, Editor, The Denver Post; Daniel Horsey, Executive Director, Colorado Council of Mediators and Mediation Organizations; Collie Norman, Director, Office of Dispute Resolution in the Colorado Judicial Branch; Ariana Harner, President, Board of Directors, The Conflict Center; Rev. Patrick Hurley, President, The Interfaith Alliance of Colorado; Mary Zinn, Zinn Mediation Associates; Barbara Fields, Project Coordinator, A Season for Nonviolence; to each of the following organizations for posting on their web sites: The Colorado Association of

School Boards, the Colorado Municipal League, the Colorado District Attorney's Council, and Colorado Counties, Inc.; and the members of the Colorado Congressional delegation.

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Peter C. Groff  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Terrance D. Carroll  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Karen Goldman  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES