

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R26-0831.01 Frank Stoner x5498

**HJR26-1009**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-1009**

101     **CONCERNING VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS.**

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1           WHEREAS, Colorado is home to almost 350,000 veterans and  
2       50,000 uniformed military personnel, and Colorado has one of the highest  
3       suicide rates among our veterans in the nation; and

4           WHEREAS, In 2022, 178 veterans committed suicide in Colorado,  
5       which is significantly higher than the national suicide rate among  
6       civilians; and

7           WHEREAS, Veterans honorably serve their country with courage  
8       and oftentimes return home with mental health barriers that hinder their  
9       transition to the civilian workforce; and

10          WHEREAS, The Colorado General Assembly has increased access  
11       to mental health and addiction treatment and expanded wraparound social

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
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HOUSE  
Final Reading  
February 6, 2026

1 services to include employment, education, and housing, which have  
2 made positive impacts on numerous veterans' lives and helped make the  
3 transition to civilian life more seamless; and

4 WHEREAS, Innovative community response services have  
5 demonstrated measurable impacts in saving veterans' lives over the past  
6 three years; and

7 WHEREAS, Organizations like Next Chapter and Mt. Carmel  
8 Veterans Service Center in Colorado Springs have enrolled more than  
9 1,200 veterans in mental health services during the past three years, and  
10 no lives have been lost to suicide among the enrollees; now, therefore,

11 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fifth*  
12 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*  
13

14 (1) That we commit to continuing to support our veterans by  
15 recognizing the obstacles they face when they return to civilian life. We  
16 recommit ourselves to supporting our veterans by expanding services and  
17 breaking down stigmas.

18 (2) That we recognize the significant enduring sacrifice our  
19 veterans, Gold Star families, and uniformed personnel have made for our  
20 freedom and security, and we commit to expanding the community  
21 support that demonstrates our persistent gratitude for their service to our  
22 way of life; and

23 (3) That we commit to seeking additional solutions to assist our  
24 veterans' transition to civilian life.

25 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
26 to the Honorable Governor Jared Polis and the U.S. Department of  
27 Veterans Affairs, as well as Next Chapter and Mt. Carmel Veterans  
28 Service Center.