

**Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R26-0841.01 Robyn Crawley x4829

SJR26-010

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gonzales J.,

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Senate Committees

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 26-010

101 **CONCERNING THE CELEBRATION OF LUNAR NEW YEAR 2026.**

1 WHEREAS, Colorado became the second U.S. state to recognize
2 Lunar New Year Day, which became an observed state holiday in 2024
3 after the passage of House Bill 23-1271, which designated the first Friday
4 of every February as an observed state holiday; and

5 WHEREAS, The official observation of Lunar New Year Day in
6 Colorado was made possible by the work of Vietnamese refugee and
7 founder and chair of the Lunar New Year Allies Advisory Group, Nga
8 Vuong-Sandoval, who spearheaded the efforts to establish the state
9 holiday; and

10 WHEREAS, Lunar New Year allows Coloradans the opportunity
11 to celebrate Asian American culture and recognize an important part of
12 the fabric of United States diversity; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 WHEREAS, Lunar New Year can be traced back to the fourteenth
2 century B.C. in China and is based on the lunar calendar; and

3 WHEREAS, The beginning of the Lunar New Year usually
4 commences between late January and mid-February and is one of the
5 most important holidays for many Asian American communities; and

6 WHEREAS, Lunar New Year 2026, the Year of the Horse, will be
7 celebrated on February 17; and

8 WHEREAS, Asians and the Asian diaspora have expanded the
9 Lunar New Year celebration into an annual, week-long, worldwide event
10 that is celebrated by about two-thirds of Asian Americans and many
11 Asians and non-Asians from China, Vietnam, Taiwan, South Korea,
12 Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and many other places; and

13 WHEREAS, Over two billion people celebrate Lunar New Year
14 worldwide, with many returning home to spend time with family and
15 share blessings of being together with loved ones; and

16 WHEREAS, During Lunar New Year, it is customary to wish good
17 fortune, health, prosperity, and happiness on those around you; the
18 holiday is celebrated in the United States and across the globe; and

19 WHEREAS, Asian Americans have served in the Colorado
20 General Assembly in the state's 150 years, including Filipino American
21 Rep. Dennis Apuan (2009-2011) and currently serving Vietnamese
22 American Rep. Kenny Van Nguyen, and Asian Americans currently serve
23 throughout state government, including Japanese American Acting
24 Agriculture Commissioner Robert Sakata and Office of New Americans
25 Director Dee Daniels Scriven; and

26 WHEREAS, The Asian American community is the fastest
27 growing population in the United States, and the popularity of the holiday
28 continues to grow; and

29 WHEREAS, The Colorado General Assembly's exemplary
30 enactment of an observed Lunar New Year holiday and continual
31 recognition of Asian culture, holiday, cuisine, and traditions, as well as
32 working across party lines, has had a very real and positive impact on
33 Asian American Coloradans and brought peace, prosperity, and goodwill

1 throughout the state; now, therefore,

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

4 (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, join
5 our Asian communities in celebrating Lunar New Year;

6 (2) That we invite Coloradans to attend events that celebrate
7 Lunar New Year and promote local Asian American communities;

8 (3) That we honor and respect our Asian American community
9 members, particularly for their entrepreneurialism, commitment to
10 innovating and advancing new technologies, strong family values, and
11 culture;

12 (4) That increasing the visibility of cultural traditions that are
13 widely celebrated among the Asian diaspora would serve as a
14 counterbalance to the marginalization that many in the Asian American
15 community have encountered over the past several years; and

16 (5) That it is appropriate to recognize the cultural and historical
17 significance of Lunar New Year and acknowledge all individuals who
18 celebrate this significant occasion by reaffirming Colorado's commitment
19 to recognizing and celebrating Asian Americans and their contributions
20 to our great state.

21 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
22 to Governor of Colorado Jared Polis; the members of Colorado's
23 Congressional Delegation; and Nga Vuong-Sandoval, founder and chair
24 of the Lunar New Year Allies Advisory Group.