



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 06-040

BY SENATOR(S) Boyd, Bacon, Fitz-Gerald, Gordon, Groff, Grossman, Sandoval, Shaffer, Tapia, Traylor, Tupa, Veiga, Williams, and Windels; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Kerr A., Balmer, Benefield, Borodkin, Buescher, Butcher, Cadman, Carroll M., Carroll T., Cerbo, Cloer, Coleman, Decker, Gallegos, Garcia, Hodge, Jahn, Kerr J., Knoedler, Larson, Madden, Marshall, Massey, McFadyen, McGihon, Merrifield, Paccione, Penry, Plant, Ragsdale, Riesberg, Romanoff, Soper, Stafford, Stengel, Todd, Vigil, Weissmann, and Witwer.

CONCERNING PANDEMIC PLANNING.

WHEREAS, Influenza pandemics occurred three times in the previous century, and history and science suggest that the United States and the world will face at least one pandemic in this century; and

WHEREAS, A pandemic can cause severe illness, death, and disruption throughout the country and the world, and outbreaks can occur in many different locations all at the same time; and

WHEREAS, Preparing for an influenza pandemic requires coordinated action at all levels of government – federal, state, local, tribal – and all sectors of society, including businesses, schools, faith-based and community organizations, families, and individuals; and

WHEREAS, The federal government has committed to taking a leadership role in creating a prepared nation by monitoring international and domestic outbreaks, providing funding and technical assistance to foster local and state preparedness, stockpiling and distributing countermeasures, developing new treatments, and coordinating the national response; and

WHEREAS, The secretary of the United States department of health and human services (HHS) has committed to holding pandemic planning

summits in all 50 states, assisting states to improve their level of preparedness; and

WHEREAS, President George W. Bush asked congress for emergency spending authority to prepare the United States against the possibility of a pandemic, and congress has provided over \$3 billion for that purpose in the federal defense appropriations act for 2006, including funding for state and local planning purposes; and

WHEREAS, States and local communities are responsible under their own authorities for responding to an outbreak within their jurisdictions and having comprehensive pandemic preparedness plans and measures in place to protect their citizens; and

WHEREAS, Consistent with its authorities and availability of funding, HHS may provide additional resources for state and local influenza planning and preparedness activities, and may require the identification and achievement of specific preparedness goals by states and localities as a condition of financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, Preparedness plans must be continuously exercised and updated to make sure they work and to achieve a stronger level of preparedness; and

WHEREAS, Pandemic preparedness will help communities deal with any type of medical emergency and will have lasting benefits for the health of our nation; and

WHEREAS, HHS and Colorado share common goals, and have shared and independent responsibilities for influenza planning and preparedness; now, therefore,

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

(1) That the general assembly supports the planning resolution agreed to between the governor and the secretary of HHS, pursuant to which Colorado will be responsible for:

(a) Augmenting state and local planning with a state and local pandemic

preparedness summit;

(b) Updating the state pandemic influenza annex based on guidance given in the HHS pandemic influenza plan and the national strategy for pandemic influenza, both released in November of 2005 and any guidance the secretary may provide concerning the use of countermeasures necessary to address a pandemic;

(c) Assuring that the operational plan for pandemic influenza response annex is an integral element of the overall state and local emergency response plan that will coordinate effectively with emergency support function 8, health and medical services, of the national response plan and the national incident management system;

(d) Establishing a pandemic preparedness coordinating committee that represents all relevant shareholders in Colorado, including governmental, public health, health care, emergency response, agriculture, education, business, communication, and community-based and faith-based sectors, as well as private citizens, and that will assist the state in articulating strategic priorities and overseeing the development and execution of Colorado's operational pandemic plan;

(e) No later than July 1, 2006, notifying HHS of the amount, if any, of additional pandemic influenza antiviral drugs that Colorado will plan to purchase in coordination with HHS, subject to the availability of funding;

(f) Exercising a component of the department of public health and environment's pandemic influenza annex within 6 months after the date of the state planning summit between the HHS secretary and the governor, and participating in a nationwide pandemic planning exercise within 12 months after that date to enable public health and law enforcement officials to establish procedures and locations for quarantine, surge capacity, diagnostics, and communication;

(g) Providing the federal centers for disease control and prevention (CDC) a self-assessment of readiness on the part of Colorado to receive a portion of available federal funds from the federal "Defense Appropriations Act" immediately; and

(h) Achieving specific preparedness goals, targets, and timelines as

agreed to by HHS, CDC, and Colorado in order to receive additional federal funds.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Joint Resolution be provided to the governor, the governor's expert emergency epidemic response committee, and the secretary of the federal department of health and human services.

Joan Fitz-Gerald
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Andrew Romanoff
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES