

KAREN GOLDMAN
Secretary of the Senate

Senate Chamber
State of Colorado
Denver

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Denver, Colorado 80203
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2 July 2008

Dr. Edward Knipling
USDA/ARS Office of Administrator
Jamie L. Whitten Bldg., Room 302-A
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Dr. Knipling:

Enclosed please find a copy of Senate Joint Resolution 08-040, *Concerning recognition of the 50th anniversary of the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation*, adopted by the Colorado General Assembly during their recently concluded 2008 legislative session. This document is being sent to you in accordance with the provisions contained therein.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Goldman".

Karen Goldman, MMC
Secretary of the Senate



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 08-040

BY SENATOR(S) Bacon, Boyd, Brophy, Cadman, Gibbs, Gordon, Groff, Hagedorn, Harvey, Isgar, Johnson, Keller, Kester, Kopp, McElhany, Mitchell S., Morse, Penry, Renfroe, Romer, Sandoval, Schultheis, Schwartz, Shaffer, Spence, Takis, Tapia, Taylor, Tochtrop, Tupa, Veiga, Ward, Wiens, Williams, and Windels;

also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Fischer, Borodkin, Buescher, Butcher, Carroll M., Carroll T., Curry, Ferrandino, Frangas, Gagliardi, Gallegos, Gardner C., Garza-Hicks, Green, Hodge, Jahn, Judd, Kefalas, King, Labuda, Levy, Looper, Lundberg, Madden, Marostica, Marshall, Massey, McFadyen, McGihon, McKinley, Middleton, Peniston, Pommer, Primavera, Riesberg, Scanlan, Soper, Stafford, Stephens, Summers, Todd, Weissmann, White, and Witwer.

CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR GENETIC RESOURCES
PRESERVATION.

WHEREAS, This year marks the 50th anniversary of one of the world's premier genetic resources storage facilities, the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation ("Center"), a U.S. Department of Agriculture research facility situated on the Colorado State University campus in Fort Collins; and

WHEREAS, Dedicated in 1958 and originally known as the National Seed Storage Laboratory, the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation has long been at the forefront of a global effort to provide secure, long-term preservation of genetic resources critical to world-wide food supplies and agriculture security; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, the Center completed a new facility with a capacity to store one million seed samples in a 4,500 square-foot, walk-in freezer and with a state-of-the-art cryostorage facility capable of long-term storage of genetic material from plants, animals, microbes, and insects at -320° Fahrenheit; and

WHEREAS, The Center was expanded in 1999 to include the National Animal Germplasm Program; and

WHEREAS, The Center, now one of the world's largest genetic resources storage facilities, currently houses 750,000 samples of seeds from around the globe and over 450,000 samples of animal germplasm, including many rare and historical collections; and

WHEREAS, The genetic resources stored at the Center are considered global assets and are used by plant breeders and researchers around the world; and

WHEREAS, In addition to its storage facilities, the Center is also home to globally respected research programs in the long-term preservation of plant and animal genetic resources and in understanding how to assess and best preserve and ensure genetic diversity needed for the future; and

WHEREAS, Colorado benefits directly from the Center's research through the preservation of samples from beef cattle, dairy cattle, and swine to ensure genetic diversity of the region's livestock and to assist cattle producers in developing higher-quality and faster-growing animals; and

WHEREAS, Working with the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the Center has preserved genetic samples of rainbow trout that are resistant to "whirling disease", which has threatened Colorado's native trout population; and

WHEREAS, The Center supports secure storage of genetic samples from native Colorado plants for the Denver Botanic Gardens and other entities, and germplasm stored at the Center was key to research that developed wheat varieties resistant to the Russian Wheat Aphid; now, therefore,

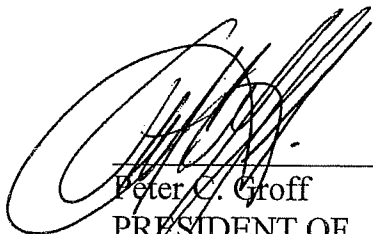
Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly:

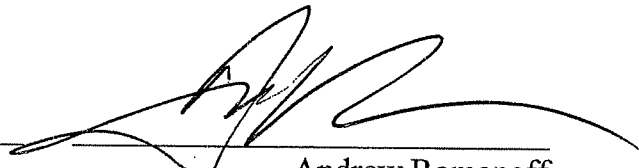
(1) Congratulate the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation and its employees on its 50th anniversary; and

(2) Express our recognition of and appreciation for the globally renowned scientific research, preservation efforts, and service that the Center provides to Colorado and to the world to ensure safe, long-term preservation of diverse plant and animal genetic material critical to food and agricultural security.


Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Dr. Peter Bretting, Sandy Miller Hays, Dr. Edward Knipling, Dr. Caird E. Rexroad, and Dr. Antoinette A. Betschart of the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Services national administrative offices; Dr. Wilbert Blackburn, Area Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Services - Northern Plains Area; Dr. David Ellis of the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation; the honorable Peggy Reeves, former Colorado State Senator; and Colorado's Congressional delegation.



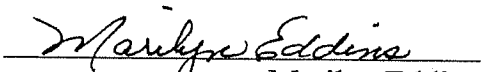
Peter C. Groff
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE



Andrew Romanoff
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES



Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE



Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES