

**First Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R09-0799.01 Amanda King

HJR09-1014

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 09-1014

101 **CONCERNING FEDERAL FUNDS FOR COPLINK PROGRAM.**

1 WHEREAS, According to the Report of the Governor's Working
2 Group on Law Enforcement and Illegal Immigration, communication
3 among different criminal justice agencies, law enforcement jurisdictions,
4 and municipal courts can be problematic; and

5 WHEREAS, Criminals and terrorists are not contained by
6 jurisdictional borders, and these individuals exploit the lack of
7 communication and information-sharing between jurisdictions to escape
8 justice, allowing them to continue to commit crimes; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2007, the state of Colorado received a federal
10 grant of \$600,840 to establish a new software program called COPLINK
11 to allow local law enforcement agencies in the Denver metropolitan area
12 to search other local, state, and federal databases for information about
13 criminal suspects; and

14 WHEREAS, Information such as investigative leads, current-case
15 data, cold-case data, crime trends and patterns, and suspect descriptors
16 can all be included in the COPLINK program and be available for

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE
Final Reading
April 17, 2009

1 immediate access by law enforcement agencies; and

2 WHEREAS, Personnel from the Arvada Police Department,
3 Broomfield Police Department, Golden Police Department, Jefferson
4 County Sheriff's Office, Lakewood Police Department, Westminister
5 Police Department, and Wheat Ridge Police Department were at the
6 forefront of the effort to bring the COPLINK program to Colorado; and

7 WHEREAS, The Colorado Information Sharing Consortium was
8 established as the governing board for the implementation of the
9 COPLINK program on a statewide basis and is made up of a group of
10 public safety leaders; and

11 WHEREAS, The core partners in the efforts to establish the
12 COPLINK program as a statewide public safety information sharing
13 system include the Adams County Sheriff's Office, Arapahoe County
14 Sheriff's Office, Aurora Police Department, Denver Police Department,
15 Department of Public Safety, Douglas County Sheriff's Office, Grand
16 Junction Police Department, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, and Mesa
17 County Sheriff's Office; and

18 WHEREAS, Even though the Colorado Information Sharing
19 Consortium was able to secure a single license fee for the software for use
20 by law enforcement agencies throughout the state, the costs of
21 implementing the COPLINK program statewide are still prohibitive; and

22 WHEREAS, During the current economic downturn, law
23 enforcement agencies are faced with reducing their budgets, while
24 continuing to fight crime and keep the public safe at the same high level
25 of efficiency as prior to the budget reductions; and

26 WHEREAS, Tools such as the COPLINK program would allow
27 law enforcement agencies to perform their duties more effectively and
28 efficiently and would likely result in removing more criminals from the
29 streets; and

30 WHEREAS, Due to the costs of implementing and sustaining the
31 COPLINK program, additional funds are needed to ensure that all law
32 enforcement agencies in the state who want to participate in the
33 COPLINK program can have access to this critical information service;
34 and

35 WHEREAS, Additional federal grants would assist in the
36 statewide implementation of the COPLINK program in Colorado,
37 creating a safer state and improving Colorado law enforcement agencies'
38 ability to fight crime and terrorist activity; now, therefore,

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

41 (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,
42 acknowledge that the efforts of law enforcement agencies to fight crime
43 and protect the citizens of Colorado can be enhanced through an
44 improved ability to share information among law enforcement agencies;

1 (2) That we encourage law enforcement agencies to apply for
2 federal grants to help offset the costs of implementing the COPLINK
3 program if they are not able to pay for the program on their own; and

4 (3) That we encourage the members of Colorado's Congressional
5 delegation to help secure federal funds for an expanded COPLINK
6 program in Colorado.

7 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
8 to President Barack Obama, the members of Colorado's Congressional
9 delegation, and Governor Bill Ritter, Jr.