SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 21-004

BY SENATOR(S) Fenberg and Holbert, Garcia, Buckner, Gonzales, Jaquez Lewis, Story;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Esgar and McKean, Garnett, Amabile, Bernett, Bird, Caraveo, Cutter, Daugherty, Duran, Exum, Froelich, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Herod, Jackson, Jodeh, Kipp, Lontine, McCluskie, McCormick, McLachlan, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Ricks, Sirota, Snyder, Sullivan, Tipper, Titone, Valdez A., Weissman, Woodrow, Young.

CONCERNING A TEMPORARY ADJOURNMENT OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

WHEREAS, On March 10, 2020, Governor Jared Polis declared a state of epidemic disaster emergency in Colorado due to the COVID-19 pandemic; the governor has subsequently renewed the declaration of a statewide public health disaster emergency approximately every 30 days since the initial declaration; and the declaration of a statewide public health disaster emergency remains in place at this time; and

WHEREAS, With the Governor's declaration of a statewide public health disaster emergency, the provisions of Joint Rule 44 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives became effective and remain in effect at this time; and

WHEREAS, As of January 13, 2021, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment reported that there have been 366,774 people infected with COVID-19 in Colorado, 4,386 people in Colorado have died of the virus, 814 people are hospitalized in Colorado with the virus, and 73% of the intensive care unit hospital beds in Colorado are in use for persons who are infected with the virus; and

WHEREAS, As of January 13, 2021, 60 of the 64 counties in Colorado were at "level orange: high risk" on the state COVID dial, which is based on the incidence of COVID-19 infections, the positivity rate for COVID-19 testing, and the number of hospitalizations for COVID-19 infection; and

WHEREAS, As of January 13, 2021, 51 counties had a two-week cumulative incidence rate of 350 COVID-19 cases for every 100,000 people; and

WHEREAS, As of January 13, 2021, 44 counties had a two-week average positivity testing rate greater than five percent; for 12 of those counties, the positivity rate was over 10%; and for three of those counties, the positivity rate was over 15%; and

WHEREAS, National health experts have warned that the states may experience a post-holiday surge in COVID-19 infections, which would likely be evident within the month of January; and

WHEREAS, Temporarily adjourning the General Assembly will help to protect legislators, legislative staff, and members of the public from potential exposure to COVID-19 by postponing the large gatherings that accompany committee hearings and floor proceedings until the General Assembly reconvenes in mid-February, at which time legislators, legislative staff, and the public will be able to more safely congregate and participate in activities of the legislative session; now, therefore,

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

That, when the General Assembly temporarily adjourns on January 15, 2021, it shall adjourn until 10:00 A.M. on February 16, 2021, unless, before said date, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives issue a joint statement recalling the General Assembly

back into the first regular session of the Seventy-third General Assembly before said date or extending the temporary adjournment to a later date as determined by the President and the Speaker.

Leroy M. Garcia
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Alec Garnett
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

Robin Jones
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES