Second Regular Session Sixty-fifth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R06-1120.01 John McKay

HJR06-1035

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

McKinley,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kester, and Tochtrop

House Committees

Senate Committees

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 06-1035 101 CONCERNING THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE PINON CANYON 102 MANEUVER SITE. WHEREAS, In terms of land use for military training, the Pinon 2 3 4 Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS) in southeastern Colorado, combined with Fort Carson's other training sites, is second in size only to the National Training Center in California; and 5 WHEREAS, The Department of the Army has begun to assess the 6 need to expand its land holdings surrounding the PCMS; and WHEREAS, In weighing options for the procurement of such 8 additional space, the Department of the Army has considered using its 9 condemnation powers to obtain hundreds of thousands of acres of land; 10 and 11 WHEREAS, Commissioners from the surrounding southeastern 12 Colorado counties, which counties include Otero, Bent, Baca, and Las Animas, are concerned that the Army's expansion into their counties' 13 14 lands would cause undue hardship to the region and its local citizens by 15 way of lost property, historical value, and available employment; and

WHEREAS, Local ranchers affected by the PCMS expansion, in addition to the forced sale of valuable land, would be forced to sell hundreds of thousands of head of cattle, and the unmitigated economic impact of losing such a self-sustaining source of revenue would have a permanent effect on the local community; and

WHEREAS, In support of local landowners' private property rights, Senator Wayne Allard and Representative John Salazar have stated that they are in favor of an agreement between the Army and the affected counties, whereby the Army would collaborate with the local counties to determine the efficacy of the expansion and, if feasible, would purchase the necessary land at fair market value with full consideration of the economic impact into perpetuity; now, therefore,

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

- 1. That we, the members of the General Assembly, support our troops and desire that they receive the best possible training so that they may defend our nation; and
- 2. That the Department of the Army, commissioners from Otero, Bent, Baca, and Las Animas Counties in southeastern Colorado, and the concerned public should work together to devise a plan to accommodate both the needs of our military and the wishes of the surrounding communities.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the County Commissioners for Otero, Bent, Baca, and Las Animas Counties; Francis J. Harvey, Secretary of the United States Army; Major General Robert W. Mixon, Commanding General of Fort Carson; Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works John Paul Woodley; and the members of Colorado's Congressional delegation.

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