

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AUGUST 2018 AS SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM) EDUCATION MONTH IN THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

WHEREAS, our nation ranks 25th in science and 39th in math worldwide, which threatens our ability to address the biggest problems our country will face in the future, such as energy, health, food supply, and water accessibility; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs and the rest of Colorado struggles with a shortage of skilled workers, with 15.3 job openings for every unemployed worker in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) field last year; nationally, there is a 3 million STEM worker shortfall; and

WHEREAS, City Council recognizes and appreciates the efforts of local businesses, schools, and non-profits to build and sustain the innovation that STEM industries demand, including local examples such as See the Change USA, which helps teach age-appropriate physics to middle school students to lay the fundamentals of science at an early age in Harrison School District 2; The Challenger Learning Center's STEM summer camps and popular outreach events on robotics, coding, space exploration and rocket science; and the renovation of the U.S. Air Force Academy's planetarium into the "Digital Dome," which will enhance the academy's K-20 STEM outreach and provide educational entertainment to visitors; and

WHEREAS, during August, which marks the start of a new school year in Colorado Springs, City Council endorses further initiatives to facilitate local, state and national STEM education efforts such as the placement of a one-meter telescope on the summit of Pikes Peak.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

Section 1. August 2018 is hereby proclaimed STEM Education Month in Colorado Springs, and City Council encourages residents to support the efforts of the City's schools, students, and employers to explore the STEM fields and build the skills that will propel our community into the future.

DATED at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this 14th day of August, 2018.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk