

Proclamation Recognizing March 20th as “Meat-In” Day

- WHEREAS,** the Governor of Colorado has proposed a one day boycott of meat products, referred to as “MeatOut”, stating that eating meat is unhealthy, causes environmental damage and pollution, and supports animal abuse; and
- WHEREAS,** the Governor’s meatless day is damaging to Colorado’s agricultural industry which, as stated earlier this year by the Governor himself, is the “cornerstone to the foundation of our state”; and
- WHEREAS,** animal use is not animal abuse and out of both financial necessity and natural inclination, livestock producers care for their animals as much as humanly possible; and
- WHEREAS,** Cattle and other livestock are an extremely efficient means of converting dryland pasture grass to dietary proteins that are an essential part of our citizen’s diets. Meat is a great source of proteins, which are essential nutrients for the human body; and
- WHEREAS,** El Paso County is proud to be home to over 1,000 ranching families who are part of a \$4.2B state industry with a \$40B economic impact, which the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports (2017) the annual sale value of El Paso County cattle, calves, poultry, and hogs exceeds \$15M; and
- WHEREAS,** area ranchers are already facing hard times due to the economic impact of drought along the eastern plains and need the full support of Colorado’s consumers. However, instead of offering support to Colorado’s ranching community, the Governor’s anti-agriculture message is now threatening the long-standing and well-established relationship between Colorado’s National Western Stock Show and the out of state ranchers and businesses that are now looking elsewhere; and
- WHEREAS,** El Paso County proudly recognizes the crucial role the agricultural industry plays in Colorado and encourages all citizens of El Paso County to include animal proteins as part of a healthy, well-balanced diet on March 20, 2021 and every day.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of El Paso County, Colorado, hereby expresses their disappointment in the meat boycott publicized by the Governor of Colorado and declares its support for our cattlemen and other livestock producers and proclaims March 20, 2021 as “Meat-In” day.

DONE THIS 16th day of March 2021 at Colorado Springs, Colorado.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO

Stan VanderWerf, Chair

Cami Bremer, Vice Chair

Longinos Gonzalez, Jr., Member

Holly Williams, Member

Carrie Geitner, Member

ATTEST:

Chuck Broerman
County Clerk and Recorder