



WHEREAS, Colorado recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS, 500 million disposable straws are used in the United States each day and the average person, individually, uses 38,000 straws between the ages of 5 and 65 years old; and

WHEREAS, many business patrons in Colorado will gladly either go without disposable straws or take advantage of the many other options like reusable and compostable straws which are available, in order to produce less waste; and

WHEREAS, the young Milo Cress has worked diligently to bring this issue to the attention of Coloradans and promote sustainability among the people of our state, gaining recognition from many different groups such as the National Restaurant Association, which adopted Milo's "offer first" policy as a best practice; and

WHEREAS, Milo has traveled to many cities in the United States and around the world, urging restaurants to adopt his "offer first" policy on straw use; with businesses and people in over 30 countries now participating; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado recognizes the valuable role that young people like Milo play in protecting and preserving the environment of our state as well as inspiring others to make a difference through action in our state's communities;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim July 11, 2013

STRAW FREE DAY

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this eleventh day of July, 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John W. Hickenlooper".

*John W. Hickenlooper
Governor*