

*WHEREAS, each year, 1.4 million school-aged young people in the United States experience homelessness; nearly 22,000 youth in Colorado are without a fixed, regular, nighttime residence; and*  
*WHEREAS, young people who experience mobility due to homelessness are at an increased risk of dropping out of school, as these students may lack access to social and economic supports that provide opportunities for post-secondary options; and*

*WHEREAS, removing barriers that inhibit educational advancement promotes economic growth and a sustainable workforce; and*

*WHEREAS, the value of education is critical to ending the cycle of homelessness, and a student who does not graduate from high school is 346% more likely to experience homelessness as an adult; access to supports and resources that ensure educational stability and grade promotion helps secure post-secondary options for students; and*

*WHEREAS, college students that experience homelessness face significantly more challenges and barriers than the typical college student, such as a lack of support from their parents or assistance in managing the demands of college while also working long hours to provide for their own livelihood; and*

*WHEREAS, Colorado was the first state to appoint higher education homeless liaisons, also known as "single points of contact" (SPOCs), at colleges and universities across the state; and*

*WHEREAS, SPOCs are safe and supportive college administrators who are committed to helping college students who are experiencing homelessness to successfully navigate higher education; and*

*WHEREAS, SPOCs dedicate their time to assisting college students experiencing homelessness while at the same time performing many other valuable services to all college students at their institutions;*

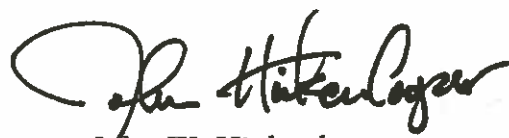
*Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim, November 2018, as*

### **HOMELESS YOUTH AWARENESS MONTH**

*in the State of Colorado.*



*GIVEN under my hand and the  
Executive Seal of the State of  
Colorado, this first day of  
November, 2018*

  
John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor