WHEREAS, hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant chemical substance in the universe. The United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies; and
WHEREAS, private industry, federal and state governments, national laboratories, and universities in Colorado and across the country continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address our most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues; and
WHEREAS, the state of Colorado has legislatively adopted greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and transportation is the state’s largest source of these emissions; and
WHEREAS, the state of Colorado has a vision of large scale transition of Colorado’s transportation system to zero emission vehicles, with a long-term goal of 100% of light-duty vehicles being electric and 100% of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles being zero emissions, and has adopted Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) standards for light duty vehicles, a move that will provide crucial climate, public health and economic benefits for its citizens; and
WHEREAS, the state of Colorado has signed a multi-state MOU to advance zero emissions medium and heavy duty vehicles and has begun a stakeholder process to develop a clean trucking strategy, exploring opportunities to develop infrastructure, incentives and regulatory policy to support adoption of zero emissions trucks, including hydrogen trucks; and
WHEREAS, the state of Colorado has identified, through modeling for the state greenhouse gas roadmap, that zero carbon electric generation will be needed to achieve full decarbonization, and green hydrogen produced with renewable electricity is a potential option for meeting this need as well as a potential low-carbon fuel to reduce emissions in hard-to-electrify sectors such as industrial heat and long haul heavy transportation; and
WHEREAS, gas distribution utilities in Colorado are required to develop Clean Heat Plans to meet greenhouse gas pollution reduction targets, and may use a variety of strategies, including the use of green hydrogen, to achieve these targets; and
WHEREAS, the state has committed to identifying, exploring and adopting a full range of incentives and other measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality through an array of both mobile and stationary source strategies including a hydrogen roadmap in 2021; and
WHEREAS, the advent of low cost renewable energy may enable the production of zero carbon hydrogen through processes such as hydrolysis, and other innovative technologies; and
WHEREAS, fuel cell electric trucks and buses that utilize hydrogen meet all ZEV standards; and
WHEREAS, engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen; and
WHEREAS, the Department of Labor and Employment’s Division of Oil and Public Safety has adopted Retail Hydrogen Fueling regulations that took effect on January 1, 2017; and

THEREFORE, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim October 8, 2021, as

HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY.

in the state of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the state of Colorado, this eight day of October, 2021

Jared Polis
Governor