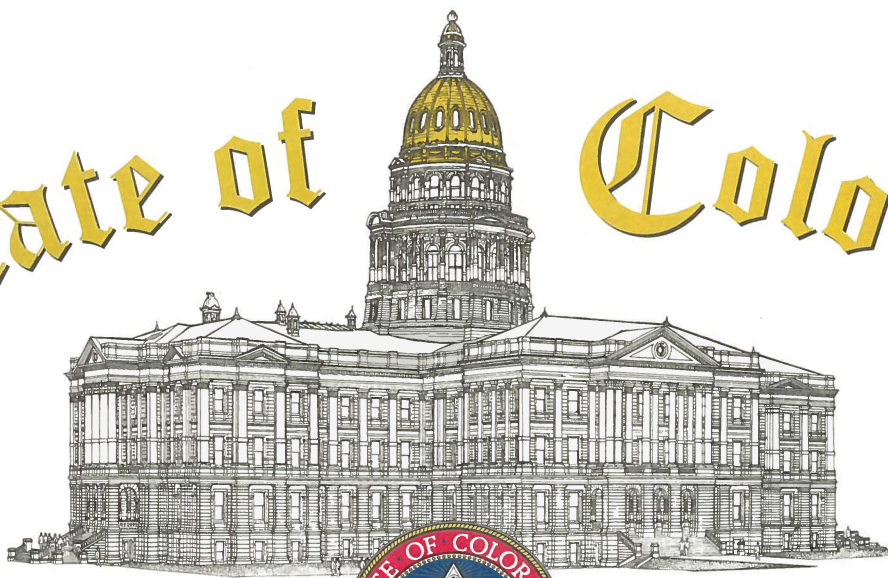


# State of Colorado



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS, Colorado recognizes the importance of environmental sustainability and recognizes Madhvi Chittoor, age 8, of Arvada, Colorado for her involvement and commitment to environmental sustainability in Colorado and beyond; and*

*WHEREAS; the average American uses 500-700 single-use, disposable plastic bags per year; and approximately 500 million single-use, disposable plastic straws are used in the United States each day. Americans throw away billions of plastic water bottles every year virtually every plastic product ever produced still exists on this earth somewhere; and*

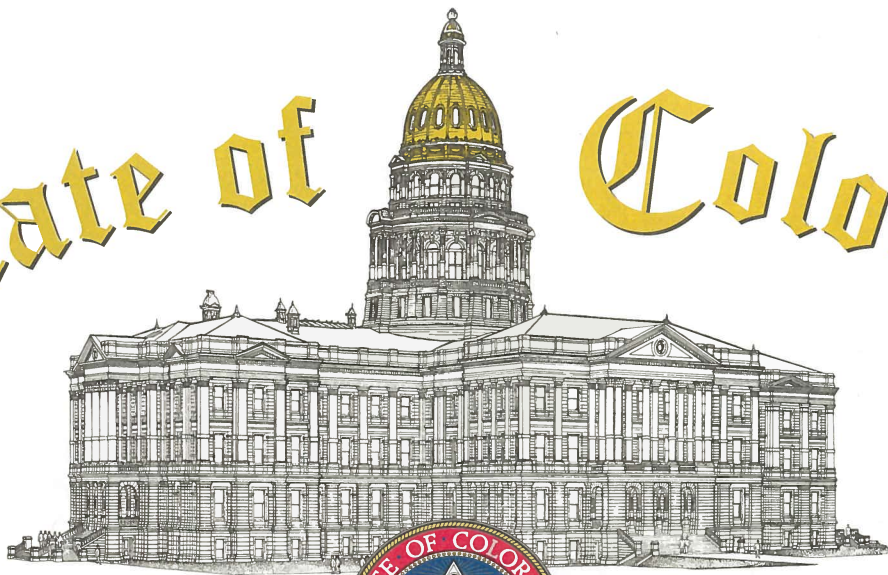
*WHEREAS; production of plastic products consumes our precious fossil fuel and we currently recover only approximately nine percent of the plastics we produce and we also use excessive Styrofoam (Plastic #6, polystyrene) in crafts, in restaurants and hotels as plates and cups and in packaging and we do not and cannot recycle Styrofoam; and*

*WHEREAS; polystyrene only comprises about 2 percent of the total municipal solid waste stream by weight, it comprises roughly 30% of the total volume in the landfill; and*

*WHEREAS; birds, fish, turtles, dolphins, sharks, and whales are killed by being entangled in plastic or eating plastic products; and*

*WHEREAS; plastic breaks down into microplastics and enters the human body via the aquatic animals they consume as food like various fish, shrimp, lobsters, etc. causing major health concerns to the human population; and*

# State of Colorado



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS; harmful chemicals from certain plastics can be absorbed by the human body, like Styrene and plastic leachates are a human carcinogen and neurotoxin; these leachates contaminate tap water with microplastics; and it is projected by UN that by 2050, 80% of tap water would be contaminated by microplastics; and*

*WHEREAS; Colorado consumers should seek out alternatives to using single-use plastic products and strive to reduce their plastic footprint, by taking advantage of paper straws, reusable bags, and other practical alternatives to plastic products and local Colorado businesses should strive to reduce their plastic use by adopting environmental best practices from leading businesses and everyone should consider a pledge to refuse single-use, disposable plastic products for at least one day out of the year; and*

*WHEREAS; Colorado residents should consider volunteering at a street, river, lake, or beach cleanup at least one day out of the year.*

*Therefore, I, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2019 as*

**PLASTIC AND STYROFOAM POLLUTION AWARENESS MONTH**

*in the State of Colorado.*

*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of April, 2019*

Jared Polis  
Governor

