



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. 2021- 14**

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED BALLOT INITIATIVE 16
“PROTECT ANIMALS FROM UNNECESSARY SUFFERING AND EXPLOITATION”
(PAUSE) ACT**

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2021, a citizens’ initiative entitled “Protect Animals from Unnecessary Suffering and Exploitation” (PAUSE) was approved by the Title Board of the Colorado Secretary of State for petition to the November 2022 General Election as Initiative 16; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 16 (PAUSE) would criminalize common and accepted veterinary and animal husbandry practices including spaying and neutering, assistance with difficult births, artificial insemination, pregnancy diagnosis, and fertility testing; and

WHEREAS, Initiative 16 (PAUSE) would redefine these common and accepted veterinary and animal husbandry practices as a “sexual act with an animal;” and

WHEREAS, the economic impact to farmers, ranchers, meat cutters, veterinarians, and other related industries would be tremendous and negative; and

WHEREAS, Gunnison County embraces and celebrates our agricultural heritage and supports our livestock producers and are confident that our producers take great effort to treat their animals humanely; and

WHEREAS, we can all agree that animal cruelty is unacceptable; yet the consequences of this initiative to pet owners, veterinarians, and agriculture producers should also be unacceptable to our community.

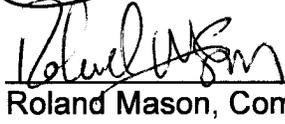
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado opposes any version of Initiative 16 (PAUSE) that may be placed on the Colorado ballot.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board urges all citizens of Gunnison County to decline to sign any petition that supports placing Ballot Initiative 16 (PAUSE) on the November 2022 ballot and also encourages all Gunnison County citizens to educate others about the importance of agriculture to the entire State of Colorado and the negative consequences of Ballot Initiative 16 (PAUSE).

INTRODUCED by Commissioner Howck, seconded by
Commissioner Smith, and adopted this 1st day of June, 2021.

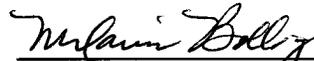
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO


Jonathan Houck, Chairperson


Roland Mason, Commissioner


Liz Smith, Commissioner

Attest:


Deputy County Clerk



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Page 2 of 2
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