

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2010



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Rep. Looper Turns Focus to Ensuring Safe Food Supply for Colorado Families

Ensuring a safe and abundant food supply for Colorado families is a top priority for state Rep. Marsha Looper, R-Calhan.

She soon will present her case on Senate Bill 106 at the statehouse, asking the General Assembly to create a “Food Systems Advisory Council.”

“Few priorities are as important as making sure that we have adequate supplies of food in Colorado, and that the food products that are grown, purchased and consumed in Colorado are safe,” Looper said.

The Food Council would be comprised of 13 members with the mission of fostering a healthy food supply, expanding the viability of agriculture and improving public health. The council also would encourage economic development for the state’s food producers and would address hunger issues.

Looper, who has built a reputation for being a compassionate conservative, said her bill would help address a critical need for Colorado’s children as well. According to the Colorado Health Foundation, the overall grade for healthy children recently dropped from a C- to a D+ in Colorado. The Foundation also found that roughly 127,000 of Colorado children 12-years-old and younger lived at or below the federal poverty level between 2006 and 2008.

“The formation of an advisory council on food would help address these issues while helping to foster local economic development,” Looper said. “The council would benefit Colorado’s agricultural industries and others involved in our agriculture and food production processes.”

The council would be tasked with making policy recommendations to the state. It would be funded through gifts, grants and donations including support from the LiveWell, the Kaiser Foundation, and the Kresge Foundation.

SB 106 was approved by the House Agriculture, Livestock and Natural Resources Committee and the House Appropriations Committee and will now be heard by the full House.

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