



HOUSE MEMORIAL 19-1001

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Neville, Arndt, Baisley, Becker, Beckman, Benavidez, Bird, Bockenfeld, Buck, Buckner, Buentello, Caraveo, Carver, Coleman, Cutter, Duran, Esgar, Exum, Froelich, Galindo, Garnett, Geitner, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Gray, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Humphrey, Jackson, Jaquez Lewis, Kennedy, Kipp, Kraft-Tharp, Larson, Lewis, Liston, Lontine, McCluskie, McKean, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Pelton, Rankin, Ransom, Rich, Roberts, Saine, Sandridge, Sirota, Snyder, Soper, Sullivan, Tipper, Titone, Valdez A., Valdez D., Van Winkle, Weissman, Williams D., Wilson.

MEMORIALIZING FORMER SPEAKER OF THE COLORADO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES JOHN FUHR.

WHEREAS, John Dale Fuhr, the former Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives, departed this life on February 1, 2017, at the age of 88; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fuhr was born in Aledo, Illinois, on September 9, 1928; and

WHEREAS, After receiving his bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Iowa State University in 1951, Representative Fuhr moved to Colorado, where he went on to earn a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Colorado State University in 1956; and

WHEREAS, While attending Colorado State University, Representative Fuhr met Adrian Van Matre, the loving wife to whom he was happily married for 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fuhr opened the Broadview Kennels and Veterinary Clinic after graduating from CSU and, over the years, had several other businesses, including the Aurora Veterinary Clinic and cattle ranches in Kiowa and Greeley; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fuhr was always looking for ways to make his community better, and while living in Aurora he served as president of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club, and the Shrine Club and worked with the United Fund, the March of Dimes, and other charities; and

WHEREAS, In 1966 Representative Fuhr was elected to the first of four terms in the Colorado House of Representatives, representing Arapahoe, Douglas, and Elbert counties; and

WHEREAS, During his last two terms in office, Representative Fuhr served as Speaker of the House of Representatives, where he was known as a man who put the institution of the legislature ahead of partisanship; and

WHEREAS, Former Governor Richard Lamm praised Representative Fuhr, saying he "exemplified a time in politics when members of both parties could put aside partisanship and work together without rancor"; and

WHEREAS, While serving as Speaker, Representative Fuhr was also a member of the executive committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures and became vice-president of the organization in 1972; and

WHEREAS, After leaving the House of Representatives, Representative Fuhr continued his public service, serving on the State Board of Agriculture; the governing boards of Colorado State University, Fort Lewis College, and the University of Southern Colorado; the board of the Colorado State University Alumni Foundation; the President's Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity; and many other organizations; and

WHEREAS, Representative Fuhr spent his last 13 years living in South Dakota, where he was surrounded by family and close friends and continued to be active in his community as a member of the Rotary Club, the Men's Coffee Club, and Countryside Church; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

That, in the death of John Fuhr, the people of the State of Colorado have lost a devoted public servant and an outstanding citizen, and that we, the members of the Seventy-second General Assembly, pay tribute to John Fuhr for his years of dedicated public service and do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family.

Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Memorial be sent to: His sons Kris Fuhr and his wife Lorrie of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and Mark Fuhr and his wife Christina of Spearfish, South Dakota.

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

KC Becker
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES