

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M18-0984.01 Gwynne Middleton x4340

HM18-1001

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Liston,

House Committees

HOUSE MEMORIAL 18-1001

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA PHILIPS.**

1 WHEREAS, Former Representative Barbara Murray Philips
2 departed this life on June 22, 2017, surrounded by family in Cumming,
3 GA; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Philips was born in a small iron ore
5 mining community of Eveleth, Minnesota, on December 10, 1926; and

6 WHEREAS, The youngest of four girls in her family,
7 Representative Philips graduated from Eveleth High School and attended
8 the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she was a member of Kappa
9 Kappa Gamma and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in
10 1948; and

11 WHEREAS, Representative Philips went on to study at the
12 University of Minnesota Twin Cities and earned an early elementary
13 school credential in 1950 before beginning her teaching career in
14 Minnesota public schools; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Philips moved to Colorado Springs in

1 1957, where she raised three children, taught at Lowell Elementary, and
2 was very active in the community, serving on the PTAs of Jefferson
3 Elementary, Will Rogers Elementary, and Colorado Springs School for
4 Girls; calling upon her background as a Girl Scout to serve as a Troop
5 Leader for two local Girl Scout Troops; volunteering for Head Start and
6 at the Colorado College chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma; and
7 maintaining an active membership with the Junior League and P.E.O.;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Philips was elected as a Republican
10 member of the Colorado House of Representatives, District 17, in 1985
11 and represented her El Paso County constituents through 1990, serving on
12 several committees, including as Appropriations Committee Vice-chair
13 in 1987 and 1988 and as Transportation & Energy Committee Vice-chair
14 in 1989 and 1990; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Philips grew up in a small community
16 with many first-generation Italian, Swedish, Scottish, Finnish, Jewish, and
17 Slavic families who learned English as their common language and often
18 found common ground and married despite cultural differences, and
19 because of this positive cross-cultural community experience, she felt
20 strongly that a common language brings us greater understanding and
21 compassion for one another; and

22 WHEREAS, Representative Philips served as the House sponsor
23 of a bill to make English the official language of the state of Colorado
24 and was the chairman of the subsequent ballot initiative on the subject
25 that successfully passed in 1988, which involved Philips and volunteers
26 collecting over 100,000 signatures, a record for a time when petitioners
27 were not paid; and

28 WHEREAS, In addition to her public service in the Colorado
29 General Assembly, Representative Philips served as a Republican
30 Precinct Committeewoman from the 1970s through the 1990s; was
31 elected President of the Pikes Peak Republican Women's Roundtable
32 from 1994 to 1998, President of the El Paso County Republican Women
33 from 2002 to 2006, and Vice-chairwoman of the Colorado Republican
34 Party from 1997 through 1999; was elected numerous times as a delegate
35 to state, congressional, judicial, and national conventions, chairing the
36 Republican State Convention in 1996; and was active on many
37 campaigns; and

1 WHEREAS, Beyond her direct service to others, Representative
2 Philips pursued several hobbies, cared deeply for dogs, was a proud
3 member of the Pikes Peak Scottish Society, and loved spending time with
4 her family; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Philips is fondly remembered by Janet
6 Murray Woodward and Pauline Murray Walker, her surviving sisters;
7 Cynthia McCall May, Daniel Howard May, and Cathleen (Ba) Hoffman,
8 her three children; her seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren;
9 now, therefore,

10 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-first*
11 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

12 That, in the death of Representative Barbara Murray Philips, the
13 people of the State of Colorado have lost a devoted public servant and an
14 outstanding citizen, and that we, the members of the Seventy-first General
15 Assembly, pay tribute to Representative Philips for her years of dedicated
16 public service and do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to
17 the members of her family.

18 *Be It Further Resolved,* That a copy of this Memorial be sent to
19 Janet Murray Woodward, Pauline Murray Walker, Cynthia McCall May,
20 Daniel Howard May, Cathleen (Ba) Hoffman, Alex May, Matthew
21 Blonder, Michael Hoffman, Ryan Hoffman, Daniel May-Applegate,
22 Keaveny May-Applegate, Elizabeth Clavier, Madeline Delich, Bill
23 Nicholl, and Joe Nicholl.