



HOUSE MEMORIAL 18-1001

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Liston, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Beckman, Benavidez, Bridges, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Catlin, Coleman, Covarrubias, Danielson, Esgar, Everett, Exum, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Humphrey, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lee, Leonard, Lewis, Lontine, Lundeen, McKean, McLachlan, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Neville P., Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Reyher, Roberts, Rosenthal, Saine, Salazar, Sandridge, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Willett, Williams D., Wilson, Winkler, Winter, Wist, Young.

MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE BARBARA PHILIPS.

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Representative Philips moved to Colorado Springs in 1957, where she raised three children, taught at Lowell Elementary, and

was very active in the community, serving on the PTAs of Jefferson Elementary, Will Rogers Elementary, and Colorado Springs School for Girls; calling upon her background as a Girl Scout to serve as a Troop Leader for two local Girl Scout Troops; volunteering for Head Start and at the Colorado College chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma; and maintaining an active membership with the Junior League and P.E.O.; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

That, in the death of Representative Barbara Murray Philips, 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-first General Assembly, pay tribute to Representative Philips for her years of dedicated public service and do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of her family.

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

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Crisanta Duran
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES