



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 23-1020

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Bradfield, Bottoms, DeGraaf, English, Pugliese, Snyder, Vigil, Wilson, Armagost, Bacon, Bird, Bockenfeld, Boesenecker, Bradley, Brown, Catlin, Daugherty, deGruy Kennedy, Dickson, Duran, Evans, Froelich, Garcia, Gonzales-Gutierrez, Hamrick, Hartsook, Herod, Jodeh, Joseph, Kipp, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Luck, Lukens, Lynch, Mabrey, Marshall, Martinez, McCormick, McLachlan, Ortiz, Parenti, Ricks, Sirota, Story, Taggart, Titone, Valdez, Velasco, Weinberg, Weissman, Willford, Winter T., Woodrow, Young, McCluskie;
also SENATOR(S) Gardner, Exum, Liston, Lundeen, Pelton R., Baisley, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Cutter, Danielson, Fields, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kirkmeyer, Kolker, Moreno, Mullica, Pelton B., Priola, Rich, Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Smallwood, Sullivan, Van Winkle, Will, Winter F., Zenzinger, Fenberg.

CONCERNING HONORING POLICE OFFICER JULIAN BECERRA.

WHEREAS, Julian Becerra, a police officer with the Fountain Police Department, departed this life on February 11, 2023, at the age of 35; and

WHEREAS, Officer Becerra was born on September 8, 1987, in Chihuahua, Mexico, and moved to the United States with his family when he was only 10 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Officer Becerra was a member of the Fountain Police Department in Fountain, Colorado, for four and one-half years, where he served as a K-9 Officer assigned to the patrol division and was affectionately known as "JB"; and

WHEREAS, Prior to joining the Fountain Police Department, Officer Becerra worked for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office from 2014 to 2018, first as a security technician for the county jail in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and later as a deputy sheriff, and was also a veteran of the United States Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Officer Becerra died in the line of duty, safeguarding and protecting the community he had sworn to serve, having sustained critical injuries after a tragic fall from an overpass on February 2, 2023, while in foot pursuit of suspects; his end of watch on Saturday, February 11, 2023, at 7:14 p.m. saw him surrounded by his family, friends, and loved ones, and he is survived by his wife and two children; and

WHEREAS, The funeral procession in Colorado Springs for Officer Becerra, which began at Penrose Hospital and concluded at the El Paso County Coroner's Office, featured the participation of over 100 vehicles, exemplifying the tremendous outpouring of support and appreciation for Officer Becerra that has arisen from law enforcement and the community at large in light of his passing; and

WHEREAS, Acknowledgment of Officer Becerra's heroism and commendable policing has poured in from all across the nation, with special recognition coming from every corner of Colorado, including Colorado schoolchildren, whom Officer Becerra went out of his way to support and establish community connections with; the mayor of Fountain, Sharon Thompson; many of Colorado's state and federal representatives; aspiring officers from the Pikes Peak Law Enforcement Academy, who benefitted from Officer Becerra's mentorship; the Colorado Springs Police Protective Association and the Southern Colorado Law Enforcement Foundation; and, in particular, the public servants of police departments, sheriffs' offices and departments, and other law enforcement agencies throughout Colorado; and

WHEREAS, In the words of Fountain Police Department's Chief of Police, Chris Heberer, Officer Becerra was "the ultimate quiet professional", an officer who "did policing the right way . . . and treated people with respect", and who, above all, served and protected his community "with great distinction and great integrity"; and

WHEREAS, Officer Becerra spent his entire professional career tirelessly providing peace and safety to all those around him and to the larger communities he was a part of, spent his life endlessly loving and nurturing his family, and now rests in the memory, with all the gratitude and deep appreciation, of all the citizens of the state of Colorado; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

That, in the death of Julian Becerra, the people of the state of Colorado have lost a devoted public servant, an outstanding citizen, and an exceptional police officer, and that we, the members of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly, pay tribute to Officer Becerra 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 copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the Fountain Police Department, the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, the Colorado Springs Police Department, Penrose Hospital, Flight for Life Colorado, the Colorado Springs Police Protective Association, the Colorado State Patrol, the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, and Colorado Governor Jared Polis.

Julie McCluskie
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Steve Fenberg
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Robin Jones
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE