

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M23-0689.01 Sophie Jonas x4338

SJM23-005

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 23-005

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR TILMAN M. BISHOP.**

1 WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Tilman "Tillie" M.
2 Bishop, a past member of the Colorado General Assembly, departed this
3 life on June 16, 2019; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop was born on January 1, 1933, in
5 Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Oliver Fredrick Bishop and Lilly May
6 French; and

7 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop earned his bachelor's and master's
8 degrees in education at the University of Northern Colorado and in 1999,
9 received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater; and

10 WHEREAS, In 1962, Senator Bishop and Pat Bishop, his wife of
11 67 years, moved to Grand Junction, Colorado, where he began working
12 at what was then Mesa Junior College; and

13 WHEREAS, In 1970, Senator Bishop ran for and was elected to
14 the State House of Representatives where he served one term as the
15 Representative for House District 50 and one term as the Representative

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 for House District 55; and

2 WHEREAS, While serving as a State Representative, Senator
3 Bishop served as Vice-chair on the Health, Welfare, and Institutions and
4 Transportation and Highways Committees and also served on the
5 Appropriations, Labor and Employment Relations; Business Affairs; and
6 House Services Committees; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1974, Senator Bishop ran for and was elected to
8 the State Senate where he served as State Senator for Senate District 30
9 from 1975 to 1982 and Senate District 7 from 1983 to 1998; and

10 WHEREAS, While in the Senate, Senator Bishop served as Chair
11 of the Transportation; Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy; and
12 Legislative Audit Committees and also served on the Appropriations;
13 Local Government; Business Affairs and Labor; and Legislative Council
14 Committees; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1992, while serving in the Senate, Senator Bishop
16 worked with members of both parties to establish, by constitutional
17 amendment, the Great Outdoors Colorado Program, which uses lottery
18 funds to protect open spaces in Colorado, and sponsored legislation
19 concerning water, education, higher education, and many other issues
20 important to his Western Slope district; and

21 WHEREAS, In total, Senator Bishop served in the General
22 Assembly for 28 years, including 4 years in the House and 24 years in the
23 Senate, during which he spent 6 years as president pro tem, making him
24 the fourth longest serving legislator in the state's history; and

25 WHEREAS, Nationally, Senator Bishop served on the executive
26 committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures as Colorado's
27 representative and also sat on the Executive Committee of the Energy
28 Council; and

29 WHEREAS, After his time in the legislature, Senator Bishop
30 served on the University of Colorado Board of Regents, the Colorado
31 Mesa University Board of Trustees, and as a Mesa County Commissioner
32 and did extensive work with the Grand Junction Lions Club; and

33 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop also served with the National Junior
34 College World Series tournament for many years, the selection committee

1 for the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame, and the Aspinall Scholarship
2 Committee; and

3 WHEREAS, In appreciation of Senator Bishop's 38 years of public
4 service, the Western Colorado Community College Bishop campus and
5 the Tilman Bishop State Wildlife Area were named after him; and

6 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop was preceded in death by his son
7 Barry, and his wife Pat passed away in 2021; and

8 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop is survived by many friends and
9 former colleagues; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop was a devoted public servant who
11 will be remembered for his hard work, dedication, and accomplishments;
12 now, therefore,

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

16 That, in the death of Tilman "Tillie" M. Bishop, the people of the
17 State of Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding
18 citizen, and that we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, do
19 hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his
20 family and pay tribute to a man who served his state well and faithfully.