



SENATE MEMORIAL 24-003

BY SENATOR(S) Bridges, Baisley, Buckner, Coleman, Cutter, Exum, Fields, Gardner, Ginal, Gonzales, Hansen, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kirkmeyer, Kolker, Liston, Lundeen, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Pelton B., Pelton R., Priola, Rich, Roberts, Rodriguez, Simpson, Smallwood, Sullivan, Will, Winter F., Zenzinger, Fenberg.

MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR JIM DYER.

WHEREAS, Jim Dyer, the former Senator, departed this life on January 1, 2024, at the age of 76; and

WHEREAS, Frederick James Dyer, known to everyone as Jim, was born on November 28, 1947, in Newport News, Virginia, to Colonel Frederick W. Dyer and Dorothy Ann Cain Dyer; and

WHEREAS, Because his father was a colonel in the United States Air Force, Senator Dyer had the unique experience of growing up in many places around the world, including the United States, Germany, and France; and

WHEREAS, As a boy, Senator Dyer joined the Boy Scouts with his father and eventually earned the highest rank of Eagle Scout; he always held that experience dear and eventually became a Scout leader; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer began playing the guitar at the age of 11, which became a lifelong joy, allowing him to participate in rhythm and blues bands in his youth and to play locally for many years at Swallow Hill in Denver; he loved folk music and bluegrass and could be found "pickin' and grinnin'" in his living room almost every day; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer had a love of history and had a well curated library of historical nonfiction; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer had a special love of the outdoors; he loved "Jeeping" in the Colorado Rocky Mountains and in Moab, driving his side-by-side vehicle in and near Fillmore, Utah; was an avid bird watcher; and liked to simply comment on how beautiful the moon was when there was a clear sky; and

WHEREAS, He loved going to the summer Shakespeare festival in Cedar City, Utah; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer served in the United States Air Force from 1966 to 1970; and

WHEREAS, He valued his education and held both a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree in history from the University of Denver; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer taught American history at Arapahoe Community College in Littleton, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, For many years, Senator Dyer was involved in local, state, and national politics, and after working on many campaigns, his proudest moment was being elected in 2000 and 2004 to represent state Senate District 26, serving Arapahoe County; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer served as the chair of the Judiciary committee for two years, and he served on the Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions; Appropriations; Health, Environment, Children, and Families; Welfare Oversight; Legal Services; and Water Resources Review committees during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, In 2001 and 2002, Senator Dyer served on the Criminal Sentencing Statutes interim committee and sponsored several bills in 2003 and 2004 updating substantive and procedural criminal laws and laws protecting minors; and

WHEREAS, While in office, Senator Dyer was heavily involved in drafting and passing two Second Amendment bills focused on issuing

concealed carry permits and preempting local government firearm laws that are more restrictive than state firearm laws; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Senator Dyer was elected to serve on the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners and left the Senate; and

WHEREAS, As a county commissioner, Senator Dyer sat on many boards, including the board of directors of the Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority, and he chaired the Centennial Airport Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, In 2006, Senator Dyer was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served a year in the Denver Temple from 2011 to 2012; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer married his wife, Donna Marie Duke, on October 5, 2007, in the Denver Temple; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer retired from the Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners in 2011, and in 2012, he and Donna moved to Fillmore, Utah, where they built a beautiful home together that they regularly shared with their family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Senator Dyer leaves a legacy as a loving husband and father with a lifelong passion for learning and a strong, unwavering testimony of his savior, Jesus Christ; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

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

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be sent to Senator Dyer's wife, Donna Dyer; his daughters, Annette Vanvleet and her spouse Jack, Wendy Jo Frost and her spouse Chris, and Megan

Macaluso and her spouse Joey; his stepchildren, Brook Bartlett, Codee Bolinder and her spouse Jason, and Jimmy Kemp and his spouse Kresta; and his sisters, Annette Dobias and Kathleen Riley and her spouse Bruce.

Steve Fenberg
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Cindi L. Markwell
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE