

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

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HM26-1002

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House Committees

HOUSE MEMORIAL 26-1002

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE CARL MILLER.**

1 WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Carl Eugene Miller,
2 a past member of the Colorado House of Representatives, departed this
3 life on August 9, 2025, at the age of 86, in Leadville, Colorado; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Miller was born in Leadville on
5 October 28, 1938, to Carl and Ruth Miller; and

6 WHEREAS, After graduating from Leadville High School with
7 the class of 1956, Representative Miller began working in various local
8 mines, including the Irene manganese mine, the Julia Fiske lead mine,
9 and the Helena gold mine; and

10 WHEREAS, Soon after, Representative Miller volunteered for the
11 draft and joined the United States Army in 1958; after completing basic
12 training, he served in Gelnhausen, Germany, until 1960, when he was
13 honorably discharged; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Miller then returned to Leadville,
15 where he married his high school sweetheart, Mary Ann, and began the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
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HOUSE
Final Reading
March 19, 2026

1 family that formed the "most important and cherished aspect of his life",
2 including his 2 daughters, Cindy and Sherry; 4 grandchildren; and 4
3 great-grandchildren, and which additionally included his brother, his
4 sisters, and a multitude of nieces and nephews; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Miller would also continue his
6 lifelong involvement in the mining industry upon returning to Leadville;
7 to begin, he established a career as an underground electrician, working
8 in the Climax molybdenum mine at the top of Fremont Pass for 27 years,
9 and served on the executive board and as the president of his local
10 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers labor union; and

11 WHEREAS, Additionally, Representative Miller played an integral
12 part in the mining industry's decision to establish Leadville as the
13 permanent home of the National Mining Hall of Fame and Museum,
14 which was founded in 1987 in the very building that had once been
15 Representative Miller's high school, and in 1989 he was appointed the
16 first president and executive director of the museum, in which role he
17 would go on to serve and guide the institution for an additional 10 years;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, A dedicated advocate for Leadville and Lake County,
20 Representative Miller also played a pivotal role in enhancing the
21 community through his work with the Leadville Trail 100 Legacy
22 Foundation, the nonprofit organization created to support the Leadville
23 Trail 100 running race, a 100-mile ultramarathon through the Rocky
24 Mountains at elevations between 10,200 and 15,600 feet; and

25 WHEREAS, The Leadville Trail 100 began as a means to
26 reinvigorate Leadville when Climax Mine, the city's primary employer
27 and where Representative Miller had worked as an underground
28 electrician, began a decades-long shutdown in the 1980s; now, the
29 Leadville Trail 100 brings millions of dollars to Lake County each year,
30 and the race's Legacy Foundation helps ensure donations benefit and
31 serve the needs of the local community; and

32 WHEREAS, Representative Miller was selected to be the first
33 board member of the Leadville Trail 100 Legacy Foundation in 2002, a
34 position he would hold for the rest of his life, but his involvement with
35 the race already ran deep; in fact, Representative Miller had helped secure
36 the permits for the first Leadville Trail 100 race in 1983, and due to his
37 crucial work, he was given the honor of firing the starting shotgun at the

1 inaugural event; and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Miller also contributed to the
3 community through his work as a dedicated and deeply involved public
4 servant; for example, he served as a Lake County Commissioner for 12
5 years, from 1977 to 1989; he worked on the Lake County School Finance
6 and Scholarship Committees and contributed to many other civic and
7 county engagements, such as the Hospital Advisory Group, the Council
8 on Aging, the Historic Preservation Commission, and the 3rd
9 Congressional Military Academy Advisory Selection Committee; and he
10 sat as a past chairman of Colorado's Region 13 Council of Governments;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, After deciding to run for state government,
13 Representative Miller was elected to the House of Representatives in
14 1996, where from 1997 to 2004 he served 4 terms as the state
15 Representative for District 61 and later District 56, representing the
16 citizens of Chaffee, Eagle, Gunnison, Hinsdale, Lake, Mineral, Park,
17 Pitkin, Rio Grande, Saguache, Summit, and Teller counties over the
18 course of his time with the General Assembly; and

19 WHEREAS, While serving as a state Representative,
20 Representative Miller was a member of several House committees,
21 including the Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee;
22 the Local Government Committee; the Business Affairs and Labor
23 Committee; and the Information and Technology Committee; several joint
24 and statutory committees, including the Police Officers' and Firefighters'
25 Pension Reform Commission; the Committee on Legal Services; the
26 Legislative Audit Committee, as Vice-chair; the Capital Development
27 Committee; and the Water Resources Review Committee; and also
28 several interim committees, including the Water and Land Resources
29 Issues Committee, the Commuter Airlines Committee, the Need to
30 Conduct Fiscal Study of State and Local Governments Committee, and
31 the Task Force to Evaluate Health Care Needs (Rural and Small Group);
32 and

33 WHEREAS, Representative Miller believed in protecting
34 Colorado's natural resources, especially its waters, minerals, and wildlife;
35 advancing developments in technology; strengthening Colorado's
36 economy; and promoting education, particularly in rural Colorado; and

37 WHEREAS, After his tenure in the Colorado House of

1 Representatives, Representative Miller continued on as a public servant
2 and was appointed by Governor Bill Owens to the Public Utilities
3 Commission, where he would serve as a Commissioner until his
4 retirement from politics in 2008; and

5 WHEREAS, Overall, Representative Miller lived his life
6 unwaveringly devoted to his family and his community; he deeply loved
7 Leadville, often reading books about local history, and enjoyed walking,
8 biking, and prospecting in his beloved Colorado outdoors; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Miller was an accomplished,
10 respected public servant who will be remembered for his hard work,
11 dedication, and community-oriented achievements; now, therefore,

12 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fifth*
13 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

14 That in the death of Carl Miller, the people of the State of
15 Colorado have lost an exemplary public servant and outstanding citizen,
16 and that we, the members of the Colorado House of Representatives, do
17 hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his
18 family and pay tribute to a man who served his state well and faithfully.

19 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Memorial be sent to
20 Mary Ann Miller, his wife; Cindy Koucherik, his daughter, and Donnie
21 Koucherik, his son-in-law; Sherry McGoldrick, his daughter, and Patrick
22 McGoldrick, his son-in-law; Kayla Marcella, Stephanie Koucherik,
23 Christopher Koucherik, and Nicole McGoldrick, his grandchildren;
24 Elizabeth Savoren, Abigail Marcella, RyLee Marcella, and Emilia
25 Koucherik, his great-grandchildren; Mary Lou Richards, his sister, and
26 Gale Richards, his brother-in-law; Jean Ann Farlow, his sister, and Jim
27 Farlow, his brother-in-law; Donnie Miller, his brother, and Debbie Miller,
28 his sister-in-law; and Norma Skala, his sister-in-law.