

**Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R16-1244.01 Cara Meeker x2044

SJR16-034

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lambert and Grantham,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Carver and Lawrence,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-034

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 24**
102 **FROM MILE MARKER 298 IN MANITOU SPRINGS TO MILE**
103 **MARKER 283 IN WOODLAND PARK AS THE "SPC ROB LEE**
104 **NICHOLS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".**

1 WHEREAS, Rob Lee Nichols was born on December 29, 1988;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Rob Lee Nichols attended Sand Creek High School
4 in Colorado Springs and graduated in 2007; and

5 WHEREAS, Rob Lee Nichols was a 20-year resident of Colorado
6 Springs; and

7 WHEREAS, Specialist (SPC) Rob Lee Nichols enlisted in the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 United States Army in 2010 and was initially assigned to Fort Stewart,
2 Georgia; and

3 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols served two deployments during
4 his short U.S. Army career - the first in Iraq and then in Afghanistan; and

5 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was killed in action by a
6 suicide bomber on July 23, 2013, near Soltan Kheyl in Afghanistan while
7 on patrol; and

8 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols received a Bronze Star and
9 Purple Heart for his actions serving our nation; and

10 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols now rests with his heroic
11 veteran brothers in the Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs; and

12 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols left behind a mother, father,
13 biological father, brother, half-sister, and grandparents, all of Southern
14 Colorado who loved him dearly; and

15 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was an amazing young man as
16 evidenced by the many friends he left behind; and

17 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was a member of the American
18 Legion, the largest veteran service organization in the country, and this
19 Joint Resolution is supported by the approximately 25,000 veterans who
20 are members of the American Legion, Department of Colorado; and

21 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols wrote a blank check to the
22 citizens of the United States, upon which he offered his life for our
23 freedom; and

24 WHEREAS, The United States of America cashed that check on
25 July 23, 2013; and

26 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was full of life, laughter, and
27 love for his God, family, brothers-in-arms, and country, and loved to
28 travel our beautiful state and frequently drove Highway 24 visiting the
29 western regions; and

30 WHEREAS, It is only fitting that SPC Rob Lee Nichol's bravery
31 and love of country and his fellow man be recognized so that we may

1 never forget his sacrifice to our great nation; now, therefore,

2 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly*
3 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

4 (1) That the portion of United States Highway 24 from Mile
5 Marker 298 to Mile Marker 283, from Garden of the Gods, through
6 Manitou Springs, Cascade, and Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, to
7 Woodland Park, Colorado, be renamed the "SPC Rob Lee Nichols
8 Memorial Highway".

9 (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept
10 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial
11 placement of signs to mark United States Highway 24 from Mile Marker
12 298 to Mile Marker 283 as the "SPC Rob Lee Nichols Memorial
13 Highway".

14 (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore
15 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for El
16 Paso and Teller counties for the maintenance of the signs marking the
17 "SPC Rob Lee Nichols Memorial Highway".

18 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
19 to the parents of SPC Rob Lee Nichols, Donna and Robert Ribisi of
20 Colorado Springs; the City Councils of Cascade, Colorado Springs, Green
21 Mountain Falls, Manitou Springs, and Woodland Park; the Mayor of
22 Colorado Springs, John Suthers; the American Legion, Department of
23 Colorado Commander Thomas Florez; the Board of County
24 Commissioners of El Paso county and Teller county; the Executive
25 Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation; and the Colorado
26 Transportation Commission.