

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M16-0291.01 Owen Colling x4338

HM16-1004

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Priola and Primavera,

House Committees

HOUSE MEMORIAL 16-1004

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM "BILL"**
102 **MICHAEL BERENS.**

1 WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Bill Berens, a past
2 member of the Colorado House of Representatives, departed this life on
3 September 7, 2015; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Berens was born on December 9,
5 1948, in Montrose, Colorado, to William and Clementine Berens; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Berens graduated from Grand
7 Junction Central High School and, after serving as an infantryman and
8 drill sergeant in the Army, received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil
9 Engineering from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a Master of
10 Business degree from the University of Northern Colorado; and

11 WHEREAS, After moving to Broomfield, Colorado, in 1975,
12 Representative Berens was elected to the Broomfield city council in 1985,
13 became Mayor Pro Tem in 1987, and in 1994 was elected Mayor and
14 served for 4 terms, becoming Broomfield's first Mayor to be term-limited
15 in 2001; and

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 WHEREAS, During Representative Berens' time as Mayor an
2 amendment to the Colorado Constitution creating the City and County of
3 Broomfield was passed, a new water system and treatment facility were
4 brought on-line to replace the system near Rocky Flats, and, as a result of
5 the combined City and County of Broomfield, resident's baseline property
6 taxes were cut by 20%; and

7 WHEREAS, Representative Berens, acting as Mayor of
8 Broomfield, served as Chair of the Board for the Northwest Parkway
9 Public Highway Authority and was appointed by Governor Bill Owens to
10 the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, the Denver Regional
11 Council of Governments, the Broomfield Local Licensing Authority, the
12 Broomfield Planning and Zoning Commission, and was a founding
13 member of the US 36 Mayors and County Commissions Coalition; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Berens was elected to the United
15 Power Board of Directors in 2009 and proudly served in that capacity
16 until his passing; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2004, Representative Berens was elected as a state
18 representative and served until 2006; and

19 WHEREAS, During his time as a state representative,
20 Representative Berens served on the Health and Human Services
21 Committee, the Local Government Committee, the Transportation and
22 Energy Committee, the Capital Development Committee, the Police
23 Officers' and Firefighters' Pension Reform Commission, and the
24 Transportation Legislation Review Committee; and

25 WHEREAS, Representative Berens was well respected by
26 colleagues on both sides of the aisle and will be remembered for his hard
27 work and accomplishments; now, therefore,

28 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventieth*
29 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

30 That, in the death of Bill Berens, the people of the State of
31 Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding citizen, and
32 that we, the members of the House of Representatives of the Seventieth
33 General Assembly, do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to
34 the members of his family and pay tribute to a man who served his state

1 well and faithfully.

2 *Be It Further Resolved*, That a copy of this Memorial be sent to his
3 wife, Tami Berens; his son, Bill Berens; his son, Andy Berens; his
4 stepson, Chris Muniz; Mayor of the City and County of Broomfield,
5 Randy Ahrens; the Broomfield City Council; former Governor Bill
6 Owens; Senator Cory Gardner; Senator Michael Bennet; Congressman
7 Jared Polis; President of the United Power Board of Directors, Brian
8 McCormick; and the Broomfield Enterprise.