



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-1015

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) McLachlan, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Beckman, Benavidez, Bridges, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Catlin, Coleman, Covarrubias, Danielson, Esgar, Everett, Exum, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Humphrey, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lewis, Liston, Lontine, Lundeen, McKean, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Mitsch Bush, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Saine, Salazar, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Willett, Williams D., Wilson, Winter, Wist, Young, Duran;
also SENATOR(S) Coram, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Cooke, Court, Crowder, Donovan, Fenberg, Fields, Garcia, Gardner, Guzman, Hill, Holbert, Jahn, Jones, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Moreno, Neville T., Priola, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Zenzinger, Grantham.

CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF COLORADO STATE HIGHWAY 3 AS THE "CAPTAIN JEFF KUSS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".

WHEREAS, Marine Corps Captain Jeff Kuss was born in 1984 in Durango, Colorado to Michael and Janet Kuss; and

WHEREAS, As a child, Captain Kuss always preferred playing with toy planes, and he began flying at the age of 15; and

WHEREAS, Captain Kuss attended Durango High School, graduating in 2002, and Fort Lewis College, graduating in 2006 with a degree in Economics; and

WHEREAS, Captain Kuss joined the United States Marine Corps and served a deployment in the Middle East; and

WHEREAS, Captain Kuss started a career in aviation in July 2007 when he reported to the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida, and went on to graduate from the Navy Fighter Weapons School, also known as "Top Gun", in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Captain Kuss was one of only three pilots selected to join the Blue Angels in 2014, an elite United States Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, and accumulated more than 1,400 flight hours and 175 landings on aircraft carriers; and

WHEREAS, A huge fan of the Denver Broncos, Captain Kuss, as a member of the 2016 Blue Angels team, was one of six pilots who flew over Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, California, for Super Bowl 50; and

WHEREAS, On June 2, 2016, Captain Kuss was training for a Blue Angels air show in Smyrna, Tennessee, when his plane went down during a "Split S" maneuver; and

WHEREAS, Captain Kuss was able to avoid nearby neighborhoods and schools, but he was unable to eject from the jet in time to save his own life, dying that day at age 32; and

WHEREAS, During his career, Captain Kuss received various awards, including the Strike Flight Air Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and he received various personal and unit awards; and

WHEREAS, Captain Kuss had climbed all the 14ers in Colorado and was known as a humble, sweet, focused, hard-working man dedicated to his country and he will be sorely missed; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

(1) That Colorado State Highway 3 be renamed the "Captain Jeff Kuss Memorial Highway".

(2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purpose of the initial placement of the two signs to mark Colorado State Highway 3 as the "Captain Jeff Kuss Memorial Highway".

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Captain Kuss' wife, Christina Kuss, and his children, Calvin and Sloane; his parents, Michael and Janet Kuss; his brother, Eric Kuss; and the Durango High School Alumni Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Kevin J. Grantham
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Effie Ameen
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE