



## SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 24-003

BY SENATOR(S) Lundeen and Gardner, Baisley, Exum, Hansen, Kirkmeyer, Liston, Pelton B., Pelton R., Rich, Roberts, Simpson, Smallwood, Van Winkle, Will, Bridges, Buckner, Coleman, Danielson, Fields, Ginal, Gonzales, Hinrichsen, Jaquez Lewis, Kolker, Marchman, Michaelson Jenet, Mullica, Priola, Rodriguez, Sullivan, Winter F., Zenzinger, Fenberg;  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Wilson and Pugliese, Armagost, Bockenfeld, Bottoms, Bradfield, Bradley, Catlin, DeGraaf, Evans, Frizell, Hartsook, Holtorf, Lynch, Snyder, Soper, Taggart, Weinberg, Winter T., Bird, Boesenecker, Brown, Daugherty, Hamrick, Joseph, Kipp, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lukens, Marshall, Martinez, Marvin, Mauro, McCormick, McLachlan, Ortiz, Titone, Velasco, Weissman, Willford, Woodrow, McCluskie.

### MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR KEITH KING.

WHEREAS, Former Colorado Representative, Senator, businessman, and education leader Keith King was born in Tekoa, Washington on March 12, 1948; and

WHEREAS, Senator King began his lifelong dedication to education by earning a bachelor's degree in industrial education at Colorado State University - Pueblo in 1970 and a master's degree in vocational education at Oregon State University in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Senator King married his wife, Sandi, in 1972, and together they had two sons, Jeremy and Brandon, and eventually five wonderful grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Senator King began his career teaching high school in California and Oregon in the 1970s; during this time, he and his 1976-77 Industrial Mechanics students took on an impressive class project: Building a house on a job site; and

WHEREAS, In 1977, Senator King returned to Colorado and started a new phase in his life as owner of Waterbed Palace, a business that thrived under his leadership, eventually expanding to 18 stores in six states; and

WHEREAS, In 1991, Senator King was elected to the Cheyenne Mountain school board, and after the end of his term, in 1995, he helped found Cheyenne Mountain Charter Academy, serving as its president from 1995 until 1998; and

WHEREAS, Senator King began his legislative career in the Colorado House of Representatives in 1998. He served four terms and was elected Assistant Majority Leader in 2001 and Majority Leader in 2003. As a testament to his leadership, he was named Legislator of the Year in 2002 by the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and in 2003 by the Economic Development Council of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Carrying his passion for education to the statehouse, then-Representative King soon began to build on his predecessors' work on the charter school system. In his very first session as a legislator, he sponsored two important bills to improve charter school operations. In sessions that followed, he also focused on the funding systems for education, sponsoring the College Opportunity Fund bill and the annual school finance bill; and

WHEREAS, After two years away from the General Assembly, he ran for the Colorado State Senate and was elected to represent District 12 in 2008. Senator King would go on to serve four years in that role; and

WHEREAS, Senator King was known for his attention to detail as a legislator and earned the title of "Amendment King" during his time at the State Capitol. "No one read bills more thoroughly than King", said former Senator Evie Hudak, "with plenty of amendments to follow"; and

WHEREAS, In 2012, upon King's retirement from the Senate, then-Senator Mike Johnson said, "[Senator King] has done as much for education policy in ... the last 14 years as anyone in the state, both on the ground, running a school, and working in education policy"; and

WHEREAS, Current legislators continue to admire Senator King and

his legacy, such as Representative Don Wilson, who called Senator King "a humble and hard-working man that so many of us looked up to. Keith had an amazingly positive impact on Colorado that will not soon be forgotten"; and

WHEREAS, When this dedicated policymaker left the statehouse, he continued his public service on the Colorado Springs City Council and on numerous boards and planning councils for charter schools throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Keith's goal was to honor his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, by his favorite scripture, Psalms 71:14-18: "As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise you more and more. My mouth will tell of your righteous deeds, of your saving acts all day long--though I know not how to relate them all. I will come and proclaim your mighty acts, Sovereign Lord; I will proclaim your righteous deeds, yours alone. Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come"; now, therefore,

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

That we, the Colorado General Assembly, honor Senator Keith King for his many years of service to our state and the impact his work will have for generations to come.

*Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Memorial be sent to Sandi King, Jeremy King, and Brandon King.

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Steve Fenberg  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Julie McCluskie  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Cindi L. Markwell  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

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Robin Jones  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES