

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**ENGROSSED**

LLS NO. R24-1112.01 Kitty Verboom x4755

**SJR24-018**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Mauro and Winter T.,**

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**Senate Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 24-018**

101     **CONCERNING DESIGNATION OF STATE HIGHWAY 78 IN PUEBLO**  
102             **COUNTY AS THE "PFC THOMAS MICHAEL HANRATTY**  
103             **MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".**

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1             WHEREAS, Private First Class (PFC) Thomas Michael "Mike"  
2     Hanratty was born on June 19, 1946, to parents James Patrick Sr. and  
3     Leta and grew up outside of Beulah Valley in Pueblo County with  
4     siblings Patsy, James Patrick Jr., Bessie, and Bernie; and

5             WHEREAS, PFC Hanratty attended Beulah School and Pueblo  
6     County High School, where he was a talented athlete, graduating in 1964;  
7     and

8             WHEREAS, Endowed by his father James Patrick Sr., in PFC  
9     Hanratty's memory Pueblo County High School still gives out the  
10    "Fighting Heart" award every year to an outstanding athlete; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

SENATE  
Final Reading  
April 11, 2024

1           WHEREAS, After graduating from high school, PFC Hanratty  
2 studied architecture at Southern Colorado State College, now CSU  
3 Pueblo, for two years; and

4           WHEREAS, PFC Hanratty enlisted in the United States Marine  
5 Corps on January 7, 1966, training as a jet engine mechanic, and was sent  
6 to Vietnam on December 29, 1966; and

7           WHEREAS, In Vietnam, PFC Hanratty became a helicopter crew  
8 chief, flying 117 aerial combat missions; and

9           WHEREAS, PFC Hanratty's CH-46A helicopter was shot down on  
10 June 11, 1967, in the Quang Tri province, and fighting in the area was too  
11 extreme for ground units to reach the crash site, leading to all eleven  
12 personnel aboard being classified as "Killed in Action, Body Not  
13 Recovered"; and

14           WHEREAS, PFC Hanratty is the only person from the small  
15 community of Beulah, and one of several from Pueblo County, to be  
16 listed as missing in action; and

17           WHEREAS, PFC Hanratty's family and community wish to honor  
18 his memory and all those who have served our nation; now, therefore,

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

22           (1) That State Highway 78 in Pueblo County be designated as the  
23 "PFC Thomas Michael Hanratty Memorial Highway".

24           (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept  
25 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial  
26 placement of signs to mark State Highway 78 as the "PFC Thomas  
27 Michael Hanratty Memorial Highway".

28           (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore  
29 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for  
30 Pueblo County for the maintenance of the signs marking the "PFC  
31 Thomas Michael Hanratty Memorial Highway".

1            *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
2    to Bessie Langdon and Kris Allen.