

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M24-0888.01 Sophie Jonas x4338

SM24-001

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Roberts, Gardner

Senate Committees

SENATE MEMORIAL 24-001

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR HUGH C. FOWLER.**

1 WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Hugh C. Fowler, a
2 past member of the Colorado Senate, departed this life on October 25,
3 2023; and

4 WHEREAS, Senator Fowler was born in Evanston, Illinois and
5 attended Evanston Township High School; and

6 WHEREAS, After a year at the University of Wisconsin, where he
7 entered the V-12 Navy College Training Program in 1943, Senator
8 Fowler moved to Boulder via railroad in 1944 and enrolled at the
9 University of Colorado Boulder, where he was a member of the Navy
10 ROTC and obtained his bachelor's degree in business; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1945, Senator Fowler was commissioned as an
12 ensign from the Navy ROTC, served in Guam from 1945 to 1946 and in
13 the South China Sea, aboard the USS Bremerton, from 1951 to 1954, and
14 was honorably discharged as a lieutenant; and

15 WHEREAS, In 1968, Senator Fowler ran for and was elected to

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.

1 the Colorado Senate where he represented Arapahoe County from 1969
2 to 1980; and

3 WHEREAS, During his time in the Senate, Senator Fowler served
4 as the Chair of the Senate Education Committee for eight years, where he
5 spearheaded legislation that aligned state policy with the federal
6 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and tirelessly advocated for
7 a voucher system, alternate funding streams, and higher teacher salaries
8 in public education; and

9 WHEREAS, Some of Senator Fowler's greatest legislative
10 achievements include his first bill, which saved the 65-mile narrow gauge
11 Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad along the Colorado-New Mexico
12 border from extinction, and his bill prohibiting smoking in public places;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, As a legislator, Senator Fowler was known for his
15 honesty, intellect, and creativity, and as Bob Ewegen, a journalist for the
16 Denver Post, said, "[Senator Fowler] was gadfly, he was pest, he was
17 point man, he was roadblock, but he was never conventional... he leaves
18 his monument, not in Colorado's lawbooks, but in the minds of its
19 people"; and

20 WHEREAS, Senator Fowler possessed a deep appreciation for the
21 State Capitol building and championed its preservation through projects
22 to restore the Senate and House chambers to their original design; and

23 WHEREAS, Senator Fowler was a devout member of Cherry
24 Creek Presbyterian Church in Englewood for 20 years, where he taught
25 Sunday school and sang bass in the church choir; and

26 WHEREAS, Aside from his legislative accomplishments, Senator
27 Fowler was a successful business owner of Fowler & More & Company,
28 a regent-at-large for the University of Colorado from 1983 to 1989, a
29 Presidential Scholars Commissioner, and the Scoutmaster of Boy Scout
30 Troop 344 in Littleton; and

31 WHEREAS, Senator Fowler was preceded in death by his twin
32 brother, F. Parker Fowler Jr., in 2011; and

33 WHEREAS, Senator Fowler is survived by his beloved wife of 74
34 years, Shirley, his daughter Laurie, his son Chuck, three grandchildren,

1 and six great-grandchildren; now, therefore,

2 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-fourth General*
3 *Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

4 That, in the death of Hugh C. Fowler, the people of the State of
5 Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding citizen, and
6 that we, the members of the Colorado Senate, do hereby extend our deep
7 and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family and pay tribute to a
8 man who served his state well and faithfully.

9 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Memorial be sent to
10 Senator Fowler's wife Shirley S. Fowler, his daughter Laurie Beckel and
11 son-in-law John Crawford, his son Chuck Fowler and daughter-in-law
12 Linda Lee Fowler, his granddaughter Emily Sheldon and her husband
13 David Sheldon, his granddaughter Yaisa Banek and her husband Nathan
14 Banek, his grandson Nathan Beckel and his wife Alia Haley, and his
15 great-grandchildren Mya Banek, Lise Banek, Luka Banek, Maxwell
16 Fowler Sheldon, Spencer Charles Sheldon, and Levi Hugh Sheldon.