



HOUSE MEMORIAL 16-1004

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Priola and Primavera, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Brown, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Conti, Coram, Court, Danielson, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Esgar, Everett, Fields, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Hamner, Humphrey, Joshi, Kagan, Klingenschmitt, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lontine, Lundeen, McCann, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Roupe, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Sias, Singer, Thurlow, Tyler, Van Winkle, Vigil, Willett, Williams, Wilson, Windholz, Winter, Wist, Young, Hullinghorst.

MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM "BILL" MICHAEL BERENS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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


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

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

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

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


Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES


Dickey Lee Hullinghorst
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES