



HOUSE MEMORIAL 06-1004

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) May M., Balmer, Benefield, Berens, Borodkin, Buescher, Butcher, Cadman, Carroll M., Carroll T., Cerbo, Clapp, Cloer, Coleman, Crane, Curry, Decker, Frangas, Gallegos, Garcia, Gardner, Green, Hall, Harvey, Hefley, Hodge, Hoppe, Jahn, Judd, Kerr A., Kerr J., King, Knoedler, Larson, Lindstrom, Liston, Lundberg, Madden, Marshall, Massey, McCluskey, McFadyen, McGihon, McKinley, Merrifield, Paccione, Plant, Pommer, Ragsdale, Riesberg, Romanoff, Rose, Schultheis, Solano, Soper, Stafford, Stengel, Sullivan, Todd, Vigil, Weissmann, Welker, White, and Witwer.

**CONCERNING HONORING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE
ANNE MCGILL GORSUCH-BURFORD.**

WHEREAS, By the Will of Divine Providence, our beloved former member, the Honorable Anne Gorsuch-Burford, departed this life on July 18, 2004, at the age of 62; and

WHEREAS, Anne Irene McGill was born on April 21, 1942, in Casper, Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, Anne McGill graduated from the University of Colorado in 1961 and earned her Masters and Juris Doctor degrees from the University of Colorado Law School in 1964 at the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, After finishing law school, McGill married David Gorsuch on June 4, 1964, and together they traveled to India after she won a Fulbright Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Upon her return from India, Anne Gorsuch practiced corporate law then became Assistant District Attorney in Jefferson County for three years, followed by two years as Denver Deputy District Attorney; and

WHEREAS, Gorsuch was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1976 and served four years; and

WHEREAS, During her tenure with the legislature, Gorsuch served as Chair of the House State Affairs Committee for two years and the Committee on Legal Services for one year, as well as the Hazardous Waste Interim Committee; and

WHEREAS, Gorsuch was voted Outstanding Freshman Legislator of the Colorado State House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, During her legislative tenure, Gorsuch served on the National Commission on Uniform Sentencing; and

WHEREAS, Gorsuch was a leader in cutting the sales tax on groceries and stiffening criminal sentences, successfully sponsoring bills that lengthened the sentence of convicted felons and limited the power of the executive branch; and

WHEREAS, Former legislator Cliff Dodge said Gorsuch was "the best and the brightest because she had the innate ability to think, dissect and understand the ramifications of any position she took.", and former legislator Steve Durham said Gorsuch was "one of the most talented individuals I ever knew. She had a great mind and was a good politician."; and

WHEREAS, During her last year in the House of Representatives, Gorsuch helped elect her friend, Bob Burford, Speaker of the House; and

WHEREAS, Anne and David Gorsuch had three children, J.J., Neil, and Stephanie, before they divorced in 1979; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Gorsuch was appointed Director of the United States Environmental Protection Agency under President Reagan; and

WHEREAS, Gorsuch was thrilled to win an appointment in President Reagan's administration and considered the EPA post the "second-toughest" job in government; and

WHEREAS, While Gorsuch was director of the EPA, she cut the agency's budget by 22%, explaining later in her book "*Are You Tough Enough?*", that her idea of conservative environmental regulation was to protect the Earth more efficiently with fewer staff, to repeal incomprehensible regulations, and to shift more responsibility to the states; and

WHEREAS, Following those same principles, Gorsuch thinned the clean-water rule book from six inches thick to half an inch thick; and

WHEREAS, In March 1983, one month before she resigned her position with the EPA, Gorsuch married fellow Coloradan Bob Burford, who was also serving an appointment in Washington, D.C., as the director of the Bureau of Land Management; and

WHEREAS, After Anne Burford resigned her post with the EPA, she returned to Colorado and resumed her law practice, specializing in child advocacy law and focusing on pursuing "deadbeat dads", a cause she had pursued as a young district attorney; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

That in the death of Anne McGill Gorsuch-Burford, the citizens of Colorado have lost a tireless advocate of child welfare and a brilliant public servant; and

That we, the members of the House of Representatives, express our respect and condolences to the family of Anne McGill Gorsuch- Burford.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to her children, Neil Gorsuch of Vienna, Virginia, Stephanie Gorsuch of Denver, and J.J. Gorsuch of Denver; her mother, Dorothy McGill of

Denver; her sisters, Mary Edwards of Severna Park, Maryland, Theresa Peace of Lincoln, Nebraska, Dorothy McGill of El Paso, Texas, Veronica Urban of Santa Cruz, California, and Rosie Binge of Littleton, Colorado; and her brother, Joe McGill of Plano, Texas.

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Andrew Romanoff
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES