

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 97-1

BY SENATORS Bishop, Ament, Blickensderfer, Feeley, Hernandez, Hopper, Johnson, Lacy, Martinez, Mutzebaugh, Norton, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Powers, Schroeder, Tebedo, Wattenberg, Wells, Wham, Alexander, Arnold, Chlouber, Coffman, Congrove, Dennis, Duke, Linkhart, Matsunaka, Reeves, Rizzuto, Rupert, Tanner, Thiebaut, and Weddig; also REPRESENTATIVES Schauer, Adkins, Agler, K. Alexander, Allen, Anderson, Arrington, Bacon, C. Berry, G. Berry, Chavez, Clarke, Dean, Dyer, Entz, Epps, Faatz, George, Gordon, Gotlieb, Grampas, Grossman, Hagedorn, S. Johnson, June, Kaufman, Keller, Kreutz, Lamborn, Lawrence, Leyba, Mace, May, McElhany, McPherson, Miller, Morrison, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pankey, Paschall, Pfiffner, Reeser, Romero, Salaz, Saliman, Schwarz, Sinclair, Smith, Snyder, Sullivant, Swenson, Takis, Tate, Taylor, Tool, Tucker, Tupa, Udall, Veiga, S. Williams, T. Williams, Young, and Zimmerman.

WHEREAS, By the Will of Divine Providence, our beloved former member, the Honorable Ralph A. Cole, departed this life on July 2, 1996, at the age of eighty-one; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cole was born in Plattsmouth, Nebraska, on March 25, 1915; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cole graduated from South High School in Denver and later earned a baccalaureate and a law degree from the University of Denver; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cole served as a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II and remained in the Army Reserve as a member of the Judge Advocate Corps; and

WHEREAS, Ralph A. Cole represented Littleton for twenty-four years in the General Assembly, spending eight years in the House of Representatives and sixteen years in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, In 1981, Senator Cole served as the majority leader of the Republicans in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cole's many committee assignments included serving as chairman of the Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions committee in the House of Representatives and as chairman of the Judiciary committees in both the House of Representatives and the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Senator Cole was instrumental in the passage of the state's mandatory seat-belt law, reportedly the legislative accomplishment of which he was most proud; and

WHEREAS, Throughout Senator Cole's legislative career, he sponsored legislation concerning the creation of the Department of Corrections, requiring courts to appoint qualified interpreters for the deaf and mute, and making judicial appointments subject to Senate confirmation; and

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WHEREAS, Senator Cole's strong adherence to his beliefs and convictions earned the respect, admiration, and praise of his colleagues and peers; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that we, the members of the Sixty-first General Assembly, pay tribute to the years of dedicated public service of Senator Cole and express our deep regret and sorrow occasioned by his death; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That, in the death of Ralph A. Cole, the people of the State of Colorado have lost an outstanding citizen and a devoted public servant and that we, the members of the Sixty-first General Assembly, do hereby 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 family.

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