



SENATE MEMORIAL 01-001

BY SENATOR(S) Thiebaut, Anderson, Andrews, Arnold, Cairns, Chlouber, Dyer (Arapahoe), Dyer (Durango), Entz, Epps, Evans, Fitz-Gerald, Gordon, Hagedorn, Hanna, Hernandez, Hillman, Lamborn, Linkhart, Matsunaka, May, McElhany, Musgrave, Nichol, Owen, Pascoe, Perlmutter, Phillips, Reeves, Takis, Tate, Taylor, Teck, Tupa, and Windels.

MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR JOHN BENO.

WHEREAS, By the Will of Divine Providence, our beloved former member, the Honorable John Beno, departed this life on December 5, 2000, at the age of 69; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno was born November 13, 1931, in Council Bluffs, Iowa to George S. and Fern Beno; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School in 1950, where he was involved in journalism, then attended the State University of Iowa, Loras College, Creighton University, Loyola of Chicago, Iliff School of Theology, the University of Denver, and St. Thomas Seminary, earning B.A. and M.R.E. degrees, majoring in philosophy and theology and minoring in religious education; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno was an ordained priest in the Roman Catholic Church and served as the president of the Southwest Liturgical Conference, as the secretary-treasurer of the National Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Committees, as the Diocesan Priest Senate president, and on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Migrant Council; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno served as president and vice-president of the Tri-County War on Poverty and director of the Women's Career Development Center; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno was a member of many civic organizations, including the Chicano Democratic Caucus, the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno served as a senator in the Colorado General Assembly from 1981 to 1986 and was a member of numerous Senate Committees, including State Affairs, Education, and Local Government, as well as the Joint Budget Committee and Appropriations Committee; and

WHEREAS, Father Beno, after leaving the General Assembly, continued in his service as a Priest to the Roman Catholic Church and continued to serve this state as a member of the Pueblo Community College advisory council; and

WHEREAS, Father John Beno was a man who was known for his quick and humorous wit, and he was respected and loved by those who knew him; and

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

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-third General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

That in the death of Senator Father John Beno, the people of Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding citizen, and that we, the members of the Sixty-third General Assembly, do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family and pay tribute to a man who served this state well and faithfully.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be sent to Father Beno's brother, George S. Beno, Jr., and his sister, Ann Beno Skrei.

Stan Matsunaka
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Karen Goldman
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE