

memorial be sent to: Lillie
sons Floyd Oliver, Jr. and
ndchildren and his great-

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 91-1004

BY REPRESENTATIVES T. Hernandez, Reeser, Acquafresca, Adkins, Agler, Anderson, Arveschoug, Berry, Blickensderfer, Chlouber, Coffman, DeHerrera, Duke, Dyer, Eisenach, Entz, Epps, Faatz, Fagan, Fish, Fleming, Foster, Grampas, Grant, Greenwood, P. Hernandez, Irwin, Jerke, S. Johnson, Jones, June, Kerns, Killian, Knox, Kopel, Lawrence, Mares, Martin, McInnis, Miller, Moellenberg, Neale, Owen, Pankey, Prinster, Ratterrec, Redder, Reeves, Romero, Ruddick, Rupert, Salaz, Schauer, Shoemaker, Snyder, Sullivan, Swenson, Tanner, Thiebaut, Tucker, Webb, D. Williams, S. Williams, Wright, and Young;
also SENATORS Sandoval, Allison, Ament, Bird, Bishop, Cassidy, Considine, Fenlon, Gallagher, Groff, Hopper, J. Johnson, Leeds, Martinez, McCormick, Meiklejohn, Mendez, Mutzebaugh, Norton, Owens, Pascoe, Pastore, Peterson, Powers, Rizzuto, Roberts, Schaffer, Schroeder, Strickland, Tebedo, Traylor, Trujillo, Wattenberg, Wells, and Wham.

WHEREAS, By The Will of Divine Providence, our beloved former member, the Honorable Richard "Rich" T. Castro, departed this life on April 13, 1991, at the age of 44; and

WHEREAS, Representative Castro served this state faithfully, representing Denver county in the House of Representatives from 1975 through 1983; at the time of his initial election at age 25, being one of the youngest lawmakers ever elected to the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Representative Castro distinguished himself in the General Assembly with his work on progressive and humanistic legislation, such as bilingual education, legislative reapportionment to provide minority populations more access to state elected offices, expansion of voter registration, and improvement of the mental health and prison systems; and

WHEREAS, Representative Castro was a devoted public servant, known for his endless contributions to various local, state, and national organizations, and, at the time of his death, was serving as the Executive Director of the Denver Agency for Human Rights and Community Relations, a position he had held since 1983, had been appointed as an advisor to the United States Senate Democratic Task Force on Concerns of Hispanic Americans, was working on a reapportionment campaign based on the 1990 census, was writing a book about Colorado Hispanic Legislators, excerpts of which appeared in a regular column authored by Representative Castro in "La Voz Hispania de Colorado", a monthly publication for the Hispanic community, and was working on a video-taped presentation of the history of Hispanics in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Representative Castro was avidly outspoken about issues of major concern to minority populations and about meeting the educational needs of culturally diverse groups in the state, and fought not only to eliminate discrimination against Hispanics, but to eliminate discrimination against all persons, and has been recognized for his achievement in the field of promoting human rights, being the recipient of awards such as the American Jewish Committee Human Relations Award in 1986 and the Martin Luther King Junior Humanitarian Award in 1988; and

WHEREAS, Representative Castro's life epitomized the "human spirit" as exhibited through his humor, generosity, honesty, and outspoken yet eloquent convictions regarding controversial issues; and

WHEREAS, Representative Castro was known for his ability to recognize that every situation presents a silver lining, and even his death presents one

— that his life can serve as an example in improving relations among all people; and

WHEREAS, As stated by Governor Roy Romer, with Representative Castro's passing "One of the state's most compelling voices in behalf of justice for all has been silenced,"; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that we, the members of the Fifty-eighth General Assembly, pay tribute to the years of dedicated public service of the late Representative Castro and express our deep regret and sorrow occasioned by his death; now, therefore,

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

That, in the death of Representative Richard "Rich" T. Castro, the people of this state have lost a devoted public servant and an outstanding citizen and that we, the members of the Fifty-eighth General Assembly, do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family and pay tribute to a person who served as a catalyst for positive change and who served his community and the state well and faithfully.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be sent to Virginia Castro, the late Representative Castro's wife, and his children, Richard Castro Jr., Chris Lucero, Phillip Lucero, Ronnie Lucero, and Brenda MacDonald.

Be It Further Resolved, That, in deference to former Representative Castro, the General Assembly authorizes the simultaneous printing of this Memorial in the journals of the House of Representatives and the Senate and in the 1991 Session Laws, in English and in Spanish.

BY REP
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