



SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 18-006

BY SENATOR(S) Grantham and Crowder, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Cooke, Coram, Court, Donovan, Fenberg, Fields, Garcia, Gardner, Guzman, Hill, Holbert, Jahn, Jones, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Martinez Humenik, Merrifield, Moreno, Neville T., Priola, Scott, Smallwood, Sonnenberg, Tate, Todd, Williams A., Zenzinger;  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Lewis and Reyher,.

MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR KENNETH "KEN" KESTER.

WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Kenneth "Ken" Kester, a past member of the Colorado General Assembly, departed this life on February 17, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kester was born in 1936 in Lamar, Colorado, but grew up in Cañon City, Colorado, where he excelled in track and basketball; and

WHEREAS, When he was 29, Senator Kester bought a General Motors dealership in Las Animas, Colorado, and became a fixture of the community; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kester was married to his wife Virginia for 38 years and they had three sons: Dan, Ed, and Mike; and

WHEREAS, In 1974, Senator Kester decided to run for commissioner of Bent County, beginning his long career in public service, and he served as commissioner for 16 years in two different stints; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kester followed up his service as county commissioner with four years as state representative for House District

47 and eight years as state senator for Senate District 2, all representing the Arkansas Valley; and

WHEREAS, During his time in the General Assembly, Senator Kester served on many committees, including two years as vice-chair of the Senate Health Environment Welfare & Institutions and Senate Local Government committees and on the 2007 Senate Select Committee on Renewable Energy; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kester was known as an advocate for Southern and rural Colorado, even if it meant voting across party lines, and he was respected by Democrats and Republicans alike; and

WHEREAS, Senator Kester was a devoted public servant and genuine friend who will be remembered for his hard work, dedication, and accomplishments; now, therefore,

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

That, in the death of Kenneth "Ken" Kester, the people of the State of Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding citizen, and that we, the members of the Colorado 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 copies of this Joint Memorial be sent to Senator Kester's sons Dan Kester, Ed Kester, and Mike Kester; his grandchildren Ryan Kester and Breanne Kester; his long-time friend Jerry Loflin; and the Cañon City Elks Lodge No. 610.

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Kevin J. Grantham  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Crisanta Duran  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Effie Ameen  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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John W. Hickenlooper  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO