

**Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**ENGROSSED**

LLS NO. R16-1174.01 Cara Meeker x2044

**SJR16-032**

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**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Marble,**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Buck,**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-032**

101      **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF THE OVERPASS ACROSS UNITED**  
102              **STATES INTERSTATE HIGHWAY 25 AT KECHTER ROAD IN FORT**  
103              **COLLINS AS THE "BUCHANAN LIBERTY BRIDGE".**

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1              WHEREAS, Sergeant Thomas "Tom" Buchanan, a Marine and  
2      Colorado citizen, departed this life on March 5, 2016, at the age of 63;  
3      and

4              WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was born in Milwaukee,  
5      Wisconsin, on May 24, 1952, and spent his childhood in Saint Claire  
6      Shores, Michigan; and

7              WHEREAS, In 1970, Sergeant Buchanan joined the United States  
8      Marine Corp and was trained at the School of Ground Radio Repair at 29  
9      Palms, and subsequently stationed at Camp Pendleton during his years of

*Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
Amended Final Rdg  
April 29, 2016

1 active service; and

2 WHEREAS, Following his discharge in 1973, Sergeant Buchanan  
3 relocated to Colorado in 1980 where he worked and raised his family of  
4 ten children with his wife of 27 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was an active veteran and  
6 member of his community and was known for his humility, positive  
7 attitude, and great care for his friends and neighbors; and

8 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was instrumental in forming the  
9 Loveland Marine Corps League Detachment in 2006, for which he was  
10 promoted to and served as the League Commandant for two years and  
11 was serving as Paymaster at the time of his death; and

12 WHEREAS, Among the many volunteer duties of the Loveland  
13 Marine Corps League Detachment, Sergeant Buchanan assisted in the  
14 collection of more than 10,000 worn American flags for proper disposal,  
15 the care and maintenance of the military canon in Dwayne Webster  
16 Veterans Park, and the planning of several local parades and fundraisers;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was one of the proud "Veterans  
19 Day Bell Ringers" of Loveland, Colorado, ringing the bells of freedom as  
20 has been done since 1918 and representing his city as a recognized  
21 regional site and model community for the observance of Veterans Day  
22 by the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

23 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan also orchestrated the singing of  
24 "God Bless America" at local events, so much so that it became his  
25 "trademark" in the community; and

26 WHEREAS, For his efforts, Sergeant Buchanan was awarded  
27 Detachment Marine of the Year in 2009; and

28 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan assisted veterans and others to  
29 become and remain sober through Alcoholics Anonymous, helping  
30 anyone who called no matter what time of day or night, and for which  
31 many people attributed Sergeant Buchanan to having saved their lives;  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was resolute in his commitment

1     to his local community, including his successful efforts alongside other  
2     community members to save a row of majestic pine trees lining a stretch  
3     of Highway 34 previously slated for removal as part of a road expansion  
4     project; and

5             WHEREAS, As a proud veteran, Sergeant Buchanan was  
6     dedicated to assisting active duty families and wounded warriors;  
7     participating in memorial services and dedications; and orchestrating the  
8     display and waving of American flags on the Kechter Overpass on  
9     Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Veterans Day; and

10            WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was a community leader, a true  
11     patriot, and dedicated his life to service, and it is fitting that he be  
12     recognized for his service to our nation; now, therefore,

13            *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly*  
14     *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

15            (1) That the overpass across United States Interstate Highway 25  
16     at Kechter Road in Fort Collins be designated as the "Buchanan Liberty  
17     Bridge";

18            (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept  
19     and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial  
20     placement of signs to mark the overpass as the "Buchanan Liberty  
21     Bridge"; and

22            (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore  
23     a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for  
24     Larimer County for the maintenance of the markings for the "Buchanan  
25     Liberty Bridge".

26            *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
27     to Sergeant Buchanan's sons Andy Brinsfield, Thomas Buchanan, Jr.,  
28     Bryan Brinsfield, Steve Buchanan, Neil Buchanan, and Sam Buchanan;  
29     his daughters Angela Varra, Richelle Chappell, Dorié Buchanan, Mary Jo  
30     Buchanan; friends Nancy Macudzinski, Cathy Blake, Rose Gagnon,  
31     Timmy Jo Given, Joe Lehan, Danny Lehan, David Lehan, and Solomon  
32     Martinez; the Loveland Marine Corps League Detachment #1250; and the  
33     Board of County Commissioners of Larimer County.