Second Regular Session Seventieth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. M16-1220.01 Darren Thornberry x4143

SJM16-005

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lambert,

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Senate Committees

House Committees

	SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 16-005 MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES	
	Duke.	
	WHEREAS, Charles R. Duke, the former Senator and	
	Representative, departed this life on January 26, 2016, at the age of 73;	
	and	
	WHEREAS, Charles Duke was born on April 27, 1942, in	
	Nashville, Arkansas; and	
	WHEREAS, Charles Duke graduated from Texarkana (Arkansas)	
	High School in 1960 and from the University of Arkansas with both	
	Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in electrical	
	engineering; and	

2 3	Foundation grant and, for graduate school, a "National Defense Education Act" grant; and
4 5 6	WHEREAS, Charles Duke served as president of Eta Kappa Nu, the honor society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, and was a member of Tau Beta Pi, an engineering honor society; and
7 8	WHEREAS, Charles Duke was a member of Mensa and Director of the American Constitutional Law Foundation; and
9 10	WHEREAS, Charles Duke received an honorary degree from Colorado Technical College; and
11 12 13	WHEREAS, Charles Duke worked as an instructor at Colorado Technical College in Colorado Springs and as an electrical engineer with Hewlett Packard, and he owned a small business; and
14 15	WHEREAS, Charles Duke was an avid skier, hiker, and computer enthusiast; and
16 17 18	WHEREAS, Charles Duke brought into government the preciseness of thought and diligent work habits that also served him well as an electrical engineer; and
19 20 21	WHEREAS, Charles Duke served in the Colorado General Assembly as a Representative of House District 20 from 1989-1994 and then as a Senator for Senate District 9 from 1995-1998; and
22 23 24 25	WHEREAS, Charles Duke's agenda over the years in the General Assembly included work on initiative/referendum petitioning, highway project prioritization, medical liability limitation, high speed mass transit, water legislation, taxes, technology, and medical care; and
26 27 28 29 30	WHEREAS, Charles Duke served on numerous committees in the General Assembly, including: State, Veterans, and Military Affairs; Health, Environment, Welfare, and Institutions; Transportation and Energy (vice chair); Education; Joint State Affairs, and Joint Transportation; and
31 32	WHEREAS, Charles Duke served on the Colorado Commission on Higher Education;

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1 2 3	WHEREAS, Charles Duke thoughtfully examined the legislation he introduced and worked closely with the drafter and with the public with whom he shared the particular concept; and
4	WHEREAS, Charles Duke brought a passel of new ideas to the
5 6	General Assembly and knew how to coin a phrase of impeccable common sense; and
7 8	WHEREAS, Charles Duke was considered by many to be a leader in states' powers issues; and
9	WHEREAS, In 1995, with the cooperation of the Federal Bureau
10	of Investigation, Charles Duke attempted to negotiate a peaceful
11	surrender with the Montana Freemen, and after 81 days of negotiations,
12 13	the Freemen peacefully surrendered to authorities on June 14, 1996; now, therefore,
14	Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly
15	of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:
16	That, in the death of Charles Duke, the people of the State of
17	Colorado have lost a devoted public servant and an outstanding citizen,
18	and that we, the members of the Seventieth General Assembly, pay tribute
19	to Charles Duke for his years of dedicated public service and do hereby
20	extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family.
21	Be It Further Resolved, That a copy of this Memorial be sent to his
22	son, Brian Duke, and his cousin, James Duke.

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