

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M25-1038.01 Darren Thornberry x4338

HJM25-1001

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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 25-1001

101 MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE RODNEY BOCKENFELD.

1 WHEREAS, Rodney Bockenfeld, the former Representative,
2 departed this life on February 13, 2025, at the age of 69; and

3 WHEREAS, Rodney Joseph Bockenfeld, known to everyone as
4 Rod, was born on December 9, 1955, in Quincy, Illinois, to Donald and
5 Patricia Bockenfeld; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was a graduate of
7 Catholic Boys High School in Quincy, Illinois, in 1974; Western Illinois
8 University in 1978; and the University of Colorado Graduate School of
9 Banking in 1990; and

10 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld moved to Denver in 1978
11 and became a fraud investigator for Mountain States Bankcard and later
12 met his wife, Susan, while working at Central Bank of Denver in 1984;

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld and Susan Bockenfeld
3 were married in 1985 and were blessed with five children: Paul, David,
4 Joseph, Jacob, and Erika; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was high school class
6 president for two years and also president of the Denver Chapter of the
7 International Association of Credit Card Investigators; and

8 WHEREAS, A 20-year career in banking and then owning his own
9 financial business for 10 years helped prepare Representative Bockenfeld
10 for his political career; he was elected Arapahoe County Commissioner
11 for three terms from 2004-2016, served as Chairman of the Board of
12 County Commissioners for several of those years, and served on the
13 Finance Committee; and

14 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld also served as Chairman
15 of the Denver Regional Council of Governments for one year as well as
16 on several committees for the National Association of Counties; and

17 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was elected in November
18 2018 to the Colorado House of Representatives for District 56, which
19 included Adams and Arapahoe counties until redistricting in 2022 added
20 Cheyenne, El Paso, Elbert, Kit Carson, and Lincoln counties; and

21 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld served for three terms
22 from 2019-2024, was a member of the Legislative Audit Committee for
23 four years, and was a member of the Joint Budget Committee for his final
24 term; and

25 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was known for his love
26 of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights and for advocating for local government;
27 he always viewed legislation with a fiscal eye, prioritizing a balanced
28 budget and advocating for K-12 and higher education; and

29 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was honored to serve the
30 citizens of Colorado as both an Arapahoe County Commissioner and a
31 State Representative; and

32 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was very proud of the
33 adults his children have become and cherished the memories of them

1 growing up and later the time spent with his grandchildren; and

2 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld loved to travel in a motor
3 home with his family and visited all but three of the lower 48 states over
4 the last 35 years; and

5 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld and his wife, Susan,
6 enjoyed a final adventure to Germany in 2023, where they visited five
7 towns where his ancestors had lived, fulfilling a lifelong dream; and

8 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld was predeceased by his
9 father Donald Bockenfeld, mother Patricia Meado, brother Jeffrey
10 Bockenfeld, beloved son David Strickland, and beautiful granddaughter
11 Ryleigh Bockenfeld; and

12 WHEREAS, Representative Bockenfeld is survived by his wife of
13 40 years, Susan, son Paul Strickland, son Joseph Bockenfeld, son Jacob
14 Bockenfeld, daughter Erika Bockenfeld, brother Jim Bockenfeld, sister
15 Donnette Cannady, and eight grandchildren; now, therefore,

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

18 That, in the death of Representative Rodney Bockenfeld, the
19 people of the State of Colorado have lost a devoted public servant and an
20 outstanding citizen, and that we, the members of the Seventy-fifth
21 General Assembly, pay tribute to Rod Bockenfeld for years of dedicated
22 public service and extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members
23 of the family.

24 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Memorial be sent to
25 Susan Bockenfeld, Erika Bockenfeld, Joseph Bockenfeld, Jacob
26 Bockenfeld, James Bockenfeld, Paul Strickland, and Donnette Cannady.