

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. M18-1257.01 Ashley Athey x2291

**SJM18-006**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 18-006**

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR KENNETH "KEN" KESTER.**

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

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

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

10           WHEREAS, Senator Kester was married to his wife Virginia for  
11 38 years and they had three sons: Dan, Ed, and Mike; and

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

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

5           WHEREAS, Senator Kester followed up his service as county  
6 commissioner with four years as state representative for House District  
7 47 and eight years as state senator for Senate District 2, all representing  
8 the Arkansas Valley; and

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

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

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

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

22           That, in the death of Kenneth "Ken" Kester, the people of the State  
23 of Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding citizen,  
24 and that we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, do hereby  
25 extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family and  
26 pay tribute to a man who served his state well and faithfully.

27           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Memorial be sent  
28 to Senator Kester's sons Dan Kester, Ed Kester, and Mike Kester; his  
29 grandchildren Ryan Kester and Breanne Kester; his long-time friend Jerry  
30 Loflin; and the Cañon City Elks Lodge No. 610.