

2013



HOUSE RESOLUTION 13-1007

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Ferrandino and McNulty, Buck, Buckner, Conti, Coram, Court, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Everett, Exum, Fields, Fischer, Foote, Garcia, Gardner, Gerou, Ginal, Hamner, Holbert, Hullinghorst, Humphrey, Joshi, Kagan, Kraft-Tharp, Labuda, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Levy, May, McCann, McLachlan, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Navarro, Nordberg, Pabon, Peniston, Pettersen, Primavera, Priola, Rankin, Rosenthal, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Schafer, Scott, Singer, Sonnenberg, Stephens, Swalm, Szabo, Tyler, Vigil, Waller, Williams, Wilson, Wright, Young.

CONCERNING THE CREATION OF A PERMANENT MEMORIAL HONORING FORMER SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CARL BEVERLY "BEV" BLEDSOE.

WHEREAS, Speaker Carl Beverly "Bev" Bledsoe was appointed to fill the position vacated by Representative Bob Schafer in 1972, and went on to serve eighteen and one-half years in the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, For ten of those years, from 1981 to 1991, he served as Speaker of the House of Representatives, longer than any House Speaker in Colorado history; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Bledsoe was the third member of his family to serve in the legislature, serving after his uncle, Henry Bledsoe, and his brother, William E. Bledsoe; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Bledsoe held himself and others in government to the highest standards of honesty and integrity, and was held in great respect for this belief by all those who served with him; and

WHEREAS, In the view of many who knew him, Speaker Bledsoe's knowledge of the legislature, the state's tax structure, and the school finance system was extensive and his willingness to work with fellow legislators, regardless of their political affiliation, was unequaled; and

WHEREAS, He held the House of Representatives in the highest of esteem, stating: "I believe it is the duty of the Speaker to balance the needs of the entire state, because as a Representative, I answer to my constituents, but as Speaker of the House, I answer to the House of Representatives."; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Bledsoe's service to the state of Colorado was viewed with such honor and distinction that upon his retirement, then-Governor Romer said of him: "He served the state of Colorado with dignity and dedication. His departure will mark the end of an era in the state's political history."; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Bledsoe was guided throughout his life by a personal belief in public service, stating: "To continue to be successful, our system needs the participation of every citizen in some dimension and the reward for this participation will be personal gratification for the individual far greater than the effort required."; and

WHEREAS, It is just and fitting that Carl Beverly Bledsoe's service to this institution and the state of Colorado be honored by the House of Representatives and held as an example for all those who will serve and work in this body, and that his service be recognized by a permanent memorial, to be erected in the Capitol Building; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

(1) That a permanent memorial honoring the life and service of Carl Beverly Bledsoe be installed in the House of Representatives, specifically in the northern niche of the anteroom to the House Chambers, alongside the tablets inscribed with the names of the Speakers of the House;

(2) That the design and installation of the memorial be in keeping with the historical aesthetic of the Capitol Building;

(3) That, to effectuate the creation and installation of the memorial and to ensure that no public funds are used in its creation and installation, the Carl Beverly Bledsoe Memorial Fund, Inc., a Colorado nonprofit corporation exempt from federal tax under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3), is tasked with the responsibility of raising all necessary funds for the memorial, as well as the contracting for, design, fabrication, and installation of the memorial;

(4) That, to ensure that the terms of this Resolution are satisfied, an Advisory Committee to the Speaker of the House of Representatives be established, consisting of a sitting member of the House of Representatives and a member of the Capitol Building Advisory Committee as appointed by the Speaker, the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, a member of the board of the Carl Beverly Bledsoe Memorial Fund, Inc., and a member of the Bledsoe family; and

(5) That, upon completion of the memorial and after consultation with the Advisory Committee, the Speaker is empowered to accept the memorial on behalf of the House of Representatives and oversee its installation in the House Chambers.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be sent to Speaker Bledsoe's wife, Alice Bledsoe of Hugo, sons Robert Bledsoe of Hugo, Thomas Bledsoe of LaSalle, and Christopher Bledsoe of Flagler, and the board of directors of the Carl Beverly Bledsoe Memorial Fund, Inc.

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mark Ferrandino
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES