

WHEREAS, the Transportation Commission adopted Policy Directive 1503.0 to establish a consistent statewide process regarding designation or memorializing of a highway, bridge or any other highway component; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado General Assembly has the authority, by Act or Resolution, to approve designations or memorializing highways, bridges, or any other components of the highway system. And, the Transportation Commission has the authority to accept such requests from the Colorado General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 during the Second Regular Session, of the State of Colorado's Seventieth General Assembly has adopted the following Senate Joint Resolutions and House Joint Resolution; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 Legislative Session the General Assembly adopted Senate Joint Resolution 16-032 designating the overpass across United States Interstate Highway 25 at Kechter Road in Fort Collins, as the "Buchanan Liberty Bridge"; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 Legislative Session the General Assembly adopted Senate Joint Resolution 16-034 designating the portion of United States Highway 24 from mile marker 298 to mile marker 283, from Garden of the Gods, through Manitou Springs, Cascade, and Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, to Woodland Park, as the "SPC Rob Lee Nichols Memorial Highway"; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 Legislative Session the General Assembly adopted Senate Joint Resolution 16-035 designating the portion of United States Highway 24 from mile marker 308 to mile marker 298, near Garden of the Gods, through the cities of Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, Colorado "Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Highway"; and

WHEREAS, during the 2016 Legislative Session the General Assembly adopted House Joint Resolution 16-1006 designating the segment of East Sixth Avenue from the I-225 interchange to the E-470 interchange the Colorado Freedom Memorial Highway

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Transportation Commission hereby confirms Senate Joint Resolutions 16-032, 16-034, 16-035 and House Joint Resolution 16-1006.

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R16-1174.01 Cara Meeker x2044

SJR16-032

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Marble,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Buck,

Senate Committees

House Committees

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".

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

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Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

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 also orchestrated the singing of
19 "God Bless America" at local events, so much so that it became his
20 "trademark" in the community; and

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

23 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan assisted veterans and others to
24 become and remain sober through Alcoholics Anonymous, helping
25 anyone who called no matter what time of day or night, and for which
26 many people attributed Sergeant Buchanan to having saved their lives;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, As a proud veteran, Sergeant Buchanan was
29 dedicated to assisting active duty families and wounded warriors;
30 participating in memorial services and dedications; and orchestrating the
31 display and waving of American flags on the Kechter Overpass on
32 Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Veterans Day; and

33 WHEREAS, Sergeant Buchanan was a community leader, a true

1 patriot, and dedicated his life to service, and it is fitting that he be
2 recognized for his service to our nation; now, therefore,

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

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

8 (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept
9 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial
10 placement of signs to mark the overpass as the "Buchanan Liberty
11 Bridge"; and

12 (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore
13 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for
14 Larimer County for the maintenance of the markings for the "Buchanan
15 Liberty Bridge".

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

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R16-1244.01 Cara Meeker x2044

SJR16-034

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lambert and Grantham,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Carver and Lawrence,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-034

101 CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY 24
102 FROM MILE MARKER 298 IN MANITOU SPRINGS TO MILE
103 MARKER 283 IN WOODLAND PARK AS THE "SPC ROB LEE
104 NICHOLS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".

1 WHEREAS, Rob Lee Nichols was born on December 29, 1988;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Rob Lee Nichols attended Sand Creek High School
4 in Colorado Springs and graduated in 2007; and

5 WHEREAS, Rob Lee Nichols was a 20-year resident of Colorado
6 Springs; and

7 WHEREAS, Specialist (SPC) Rob Lee Nichols enlisted in the

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1 United States Army in 2010 and was initially assigned to Fort Stewart,
2 Georgia; and

3 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols served two deployments during
4 his short U.S. Army career - the first in Iraq and then in Afghanistan; and

5 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was killed in action by a
6 suicide bomber on July 23, 2013, near Soltan Kheyl in Afghanistan while
7 on patrol; and

8 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols received a Bronze Star and
9 Purple Heart for his actions serving our nation; and

10 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols now rests with his heroic
11 veteran brothers in the Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs; and

12 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols left behind a mother, father,
13 biological father, brother, half-sister, and grandparents, all of Southern
14 Colorado who loved him dearly; and

15 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was an amazing young man as
16 evidenced by the many friends he left behind; and

17 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was a member of the American
18 Legion, the largest veteran service organization in the country, and this
19 Joint Resolution is supported by the approximately 25,000 veterans who
20 are members of the American Legion, Department of Colorado; and

21 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols wrote a blank check to the
22 citizens of the United States, upon which he offered his life for our
23 freedom; and

24 WHEREAS, The United States of America cashed that check on
25 July 23, 2013; and

26 WHEREAS, SPC Rob Lee Nichols was full of life, laughter, and
27 love for his God, family, brothers-in-arms, and country, and loved to
28 travel our beautiful state and frequently drove Highway 24 visiting the
29 western regions; and

30 WHEREAS, It is only fitting that SPC Rob Lee Nichol's bravery
31 and love of country and his fellow man be recognized so that we may

1 never forget his sacrifice to our great nation; now, therefore,

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

4 (1) That the portion of United States Highway 24 from Mile
5 Marker 298 to Mile Marker 283, from Garden of the Gods, through
6 Manitou Springs, Cascade, and Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, to
7 Woodland Park, Colorado, be renamed the "SPC Rob Lee Nichols
8 Memorial Highway".

9 (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept
10 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial
11 placement of signs to mark United States Highway 24 from Mile Marker
12 298 to Mile Marker 283 as the "SPC Rob Lee Nichols Memorial
13 Highway".

14 (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore
15 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for El
16 Paso and Teller counties for the maintenance of the signs marking the
17 "SPC Rob Lee Nichols Memorial Highway".

18 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
19 to the parents of SPC Rob Lee Nichols, Donna and Robert Ribisi of
20 Colorado Springs; the City Councils of Cascade, Colorado Springs, Green
21 Mountain Falls, Manitou Springs, and Woodland Park; the Mayor of
22 Colorado Springs, John Suthers; the American Legion, Department of
23 Colorado Commander Thomas Florez; the Board of County
24 Commissioners of El Paso county and Teller county; the Executive
25 Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation; and the Colorado
26 Transportation Commission.

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R16-1245.01 Cara Meeker x2044

SJR16-035

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lambert and Merrifield,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Carver and Lee, Joshi, Klingenschmitt, Landgraf, Lundeen, Nordberg, Roupe

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-035

101 CONCERNING THE COMMEMORATION OF THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS AND
102 THE DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF UNITED STATES HIGHWAY
103 24 FROM MILE MARKER 308 TO MILE MARKER 298 AS THE
104 "BUFFALO SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".

1 WHEREAS, African-Americans have served with honor and
2 distinction in every major American war; and

3 WHEREAS, Approximately 180,000 African-Americans served
4 in the U.S. Army and another 18,000 served in the U.S. Navy during the
5 Civil War from 1861-1865; and

6 WHEREAS, In 1866, federal legislation was adopted to create six
7 African-American Army units, identified as the 9th and 10th Cavalry and
8 the 38th, 39th, 40th, and 41st Infantry Regiments; and

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1 WHEREAS, The four infantry units were reorganized in 1868 as
2 the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments; and

3 WHEREAS, The African-American troops could only serve West
4 of the Mississippi River because of the prevailing attitudes following the
5 Civil War, which led to their extensive involvement in the settling of the
6 American West; and

7 WHEREAS, These troops were given the nickname of "Buffalo
8 Soldiers" by Native Americans and were known for the same fierce
9 bravery and fighting spirit of the respected animal; and

10 WHEREAS, The Buffalo Soldiers' main charge was to protect
11 settlers as they moved West and to support the westward expansion by
12 building forts, roads, and other infrastructure, and mapping the wilderness
13 as the American West was being developed; and

14 WHEREAS, Buffalo Soldiers were stationed at Fort Lyon and Fort
15 Garland, Colorado, where they assisted civil authorities in peace-keeping
16 efforts and participated in many important military conflicts in Colorado's
17 early history; and

18 WHEREAS, Buffalo Soldiers fought bandits, escorted stage
19 coaches and paymasters, and delivered mail longer than the Pony
20 Express; and

21 WHEREAS, Buffalo Soldiers were awarded 23 Medals of Honor
22 and 40 Certificates of Merit for their valor, endurance, and courage, and
23 the African-American units had the lowest desertion rate in the Army; and

24 WHEREAS, Due to the integral part Buffalo Soldiers have played
25 in the history of Colorado and the United States, it is appropriate to honor
26 their history and valor; and

27 WHEREAS, The year 2016 marks the 150th anniversary of the
28 establishment of these African-American regiments; now, therefore,

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

31 (1) That the portion of United States Highway 24 from Mile

1 Marker 308 to Mile Marker 298, near Garden of the Gods, through the
2 cities of Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, Colorado, be renamed
3 the "Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Highway";

4 (2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept
5 and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purposes of the initial
6 placement of signs to mark the designated portion of United States
7 Highway 24 as the "Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Highway"; and

8 (3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore
9 a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners for El
10 Paso county for the maintenance of the markings for the "Buffalo Soldiers
11 Memorial Highway".

12 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
13 to Governor John Hickenlooper; the Board of County Commissioners for
14 El Paso county; the City Councils of Colorado Springs and Manitou
15 Springs; the Colorado Springs Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial
16 Committee; the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum; the public affairs
17 offices for Peterson Air Force Base, Fort Carson, the Mountain Post
18 Historical Center, and the United States Air Force Academy; the
19 Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation, the
20 Colorado Transportation Commission, and each member of Colorado's
21 congressional delegation.



HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-1006

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Ryden and Thurlow, Buckner, Danielson, Fields, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Humphrey, Kraft-Tharp, Lee, Lontine, McCann, Melton, Moreno, Primavera, Roupe, Wist, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Brown, Buck, Carver, Conti, Coram, Court, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Esgar, Everett, Hamner, Joshi, Kagan, Klingenschmitt, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Leonard, Lundeen, Mitsch Bush, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Saine, Salazar, Sias, Singer, Tyler, Van Winkle, Vigil, Willett, Williams, Wilson, Windholz, Winter, Young, Hullinghorst;
also SENATOR(S) Todd and Martinez Humenik, Scott, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Carroll, Cooke, Crowder, Donovan, Garcia, Grantham, Guzman, Heath, Hill, Holbert, Jahn, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Merrifield, Neville T., Newell, Roberts, Scheffel, Sonnenberg, Steadman, Tate, Ulibarri, Cadman.

CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF A PORTION OF EAST SIXTH AVENUE IN AURORA AS THE "COLORADO FREEDOM MEMORIAL HIGHWAY".

WHEREAS, Eighty-eight Colorado soldiers are buried at Normandy Beach, France, and thousands of others were laid to rest in distant cemeteries or their remains were never recovered in wars on foreign soil; and

WHEREAS, In May 2000, a group of veterans, historians, and citizens assembled by Rick Crandall and Pat Smith, State Adjutant of the Colorado American Legion, began a series of meetings at the Legion's state headquarters to begin discussing the parameters for which individuals would be included on a memorial dedicated to all Colorado veterans killed in action; and

WHEREAS, The group concluded that such a memorial would honor veterans who were killed in action or from wounds received in combat action and who had listed Colorado as their home of record upon entering service and would date back to the Spanish American War, so as to include all wars since Colorado attained statehood; and

WHEREAS, The very first task accomplished by this group was creating the name of the memorial--Pat Smith simply stated, "It should be called the Colorado Freedom Memorial"; and

WHEREAS, Rick Crandall met with an architectural designer, then-25-year-old Kristoffer Kenton, who began the design process of the Colorado Freedom Memorial; in April 2001, Kenton finished the design of what would be one of the most unique and beautiful military memorials in America; and

WHEREAS, In January 2003, the Aurora City Council gave unanimous approval to move forward with creating an agreement between the city and the Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation for the location of the memorial at Telluride Street and Sixth Avenue, near Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora; and

WHEREAS, A partnership was created between the Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation and the Aurora Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department; the partnership continues to this day under the leadership of Diane Crandall, who manages the events and day-to-day operation of the Colorado Freedom Memorial; and

WHEREAS, The nonprofit Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation received its 501(c)3 designation from the IRS in June 2001 and began a fundraising campaign that continued for the next eleven years; the first \$100 was raised during a Women Marines Association Area 7 Conference at Paula Sarlls' home, attended by Aurora mayor Paul Tauer; Rick Crandall; and Colorado Women's Hall of Fame member Lieutenant General Carol Mutter; and

WHEREAS, During a live radio-thon on KEZW 1430 AM in May 2012, an anonymous donor contributed \$345,000, which provided enough money to begin construction of the Colorado Freedom Memorial; and

WHEREAS, A groundbreaking ceremony for the Colorado Freedom Memorial was held on February 2, 2013, a beautiful, sunny Colorado winter morning; and

WHEREAS, In May 2013, the Colorado Freedom Memorial was dedicated, with several thousand people in attendance; and

WHEREAS, Since then, thousands of Coloradans and visitors from other states and nations have visited the Colorado Freedom Memorial to locate the names of their lost warriors and to reflect on their memories of their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado Freedom Memorial has become a gathering place for annual Memorial Day and Veterans Day commemorations and other statewide veterans events; and

WHEREAS, The avenue that brings visitors to the Colorado Freedom Memorial is a State Highway and is eligible to be named in honor of our war veterans; now, therefore,

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

(1) That the portion of East Sixth Avenue from the I-225 interchange to the E-470 interchange shall be renamed the "Colorado Freedom Memorial Highway";

(2) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may accept and expend gifts, grants, and donations for the purpose of the initial placement of the two signs to mark East Sixth Avenue from the I-225 interchange to the E-470 interchange as the "Colorado Freedom Memorial Highway"; and

(3) That the Colorado Department of Transportation may explore a cooperative agreement with the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County and the city of Aurora for the maintenance of the markings for the Colorado Freedom Memorial Highway.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to Governor John Hickenlooper; Colonel John Wagner, Commander, Buckley Air Force Base; Major General H. Michael Edwards, Adjutant General of Colorado; Steve Hogan, Mayor of Aurora; the Aurora City Council; the Board of County Commissioners of Arapahoe County; Pat Smith, Adjutant of American Legion Department of Colorado; former Aurora mayor Paul Tauer; Rick and Diane Crandall; Paula Sarlls, President, Women Marines Association Colorado Columbine - WM History Chapter; Lieutenant General Carol Mutter; the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Colorado; the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum; the Aurora History Museum; the History Colorado Center; and Colorado's Congressional delegation.

Dickey Lee Hullinghorst
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Bill L. Cadman
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Effie Ameen
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE