



## **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 07-1009**

**BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Loooper, Butcher, Cadman, Gardner B., Hicks, Lambert, Stephens, Merrifield, Balmer, Benefield, Borodkin, Buescher, Carroll M., Carroll T., Casso, Cerbo, Curry, Fischer, Frangas, Gagliardi, Gallegos, Garcia, Gardner C., Gibbs, Green, Hodge, Jahn, Judd, Kefalas, Kerr A., Kerr J., King, Labuda, Levy, Liston, Lundberg, Madden, Marostica, Marshall, Massey, May M., McFadyen, McGihon, McKinley, McNulty, Mitchell V., Peniston, Pommer, Primavera, Rice, Riesberg, Roberts, Romanoff, Rose, Solano, Sonnenberg, Soper, Stafford, Summers, Swalm, Todd, Vaad, Weissmann, White, and Witwer; also SENATOR(S) McElhany, May R., Morse, Schultheis, Bacon, Boyd, Brophy, Fitz-Gerald, Gordon, Groff, Hagedorn, Harvey, Isgar, Johnson, Keller, Kester, Kopp, Mitchell S., Penry, Renfroe, Romer, Sandoval, Schwartz, Shaffer, Spence, Takis, Tapia, Taylor, Tochtrop, Tupa, Veiga, Ward, Wiens, Williams, and Windels.**

### **CONCERNING THE BUILDING OF A NATIONAL CEMETERY IN THE PIKES PEAK REGION.**

WHEREAS, Colorado is home not only to active-duty service personnel and veterans but also to countless family members of such men and women, family members who, like their kin, display dedication, courage, and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, Fort Carson, Peterson Air Force Base, Schriever Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station, and the Air Force Academy are all located in the Pikes Peak region and are home to about 33,000 active duty military personnel, with about 44,000 family members accompanying the military members; and

WHEREAS, In addition to active members of the Armed Services, Colorado is the proud home of more than 430,000 military veterans who have served their country long and well and who bring great honor and distinction to the state; and

WHEREAS, The fifth Congressional district, which includes the counties of El Paso, Lake, Chaffee, Park, Teller, and Fremont, is home to 23,000 retired veterans who spent at least 20 years in the military; and

WHEREAS, As of the year 2000, the Pikes Peak region, including the counties of El Paso, Pueblo, Teller, and Fremont had 103,394 military veterans; and

WHEREAS, The United States government made a promise to its veterans to honor those veterans with burial in a national veterans' cemetery, and the government has an obligation to provide its veterans with burial in a national veterans' cemetery; and

WHEREAS, Colorado has only one national veterans cemetery, the Fort Logan National Veterans' Cemetery, and this cemetery is expected to reach capacity in the next 25 to 30 years, and the establishment of a national veterans' cemetery in the Pikes Peak region would allow the Fort Logan National Veterans' Cemetery to continue to serve the veterans in that region for a longer period of time; and

WHEREAS, There is no national veterans' cemetery in the Pikes Peak region of Colorado to serve the veterans that reside in that region and no plan to build one in the future; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-sixth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:*

That we, the members of the Sixty-sixth General Assembly, in appreciation of the sacrifice and service of our men and women in the armed forces and their families to protect our freedoms and way of life, hereby urge the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to develop and build a national veterans' cemetery in the Pikes Peak region.

*Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to President George W. Bush; the Honorable Jim Nicholson, Secretary of the

Department of Veterans Affairs; each member of Colorado's delegation to the United States Congress; Governor Bill Ritter; and the Executive Director of the Department of Military Affairs.

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Andrew Romanoff  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Joan Fitz-Gerald  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Karen Goldman  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE