

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

**REVISED**

LLS NO. M23-0689.01 Sophie Jonas x4338

**SJM23-005**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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**SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 23-005**

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATOR TILMAN M. BISHOP.**

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1           WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Tilman "Tillie" M.  
2 Bishop, a past member of the Colorado General Assembly, departed this  
3 life on June 16, 2019; and

4           WHEREAS, Senator Bishop was born on January 1, 1933, in  
5 Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Oliver Fredrick Bishop and Lilly May  
6 French; and

7           WHEREAS, Senator Bishop earned his bachelor's and master's  
8 degrees in education at the University of Northern Colorado and in 1999,  
9 received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater; and

10           WHEREAS, In 1962, Senator Bishop and Pat Bishop, his wife of  
11 67 years, moved to Grand Junction, Colorado, where he began working

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.*

HOUSE  
Final Reading  
April 6, 2023

SENATE  
Final Reading  
April 5, 2023

1 at what was then Mesa Junior College; and

2 WHEREAS, In 1970, Senator Bishop ran for and was elected to  
3 the State House of Representatives where he served one term as the  
4 Representative for House District 50 and one term as the Representative  
5 for House District 55; and

6 WHEREAS, While serving as a State Representative, Senator  
7 Bishop served as Vice-chair on the Health, Welfare, and Institutions and  
8 Transportation and Highways Committees and also served on the  
9 Appropriations, Labor and Employment Relations; Business Affairs; and  
10 House Services Committees; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1974, Senator Bishop ran for and was elected to  
12 the State Senate where he served as State Senator for Senate District 30  
13 from 1975 to 1982 and Senate District 7 from 1983 to 1998; and

14 WHEREAS, While in the Senate, Senator Bishop served as Chair  
15 of the Transportation; Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy; and  
16 Legislative Audit Committees and also served on the Appropriations;  
17 Local Government; Business Affairs and Labor; and Legislative Council  
18 Committees; and

19 WHEREAS, In 1992, while serving in the Senate, Senator Bishop  
20 worked with members of both parties to establish, by constitutional  
21 amendment, the Great Outdoors Colorado Program, which uses lottery  
22 funds to protect open spaces in Colorado, and sponsored legislation  
23 concerning water, education, higher education, and many other issues  
24 important to his Western Slope district; and

25 WHEREAS, In total, Senator Bishop served in the General  
26 Assembly for 28 years, including 4 years in the House and 24 years in the  
27 Senate, during which he spent 6 years as president pro tem, making him  
28 the fourth longest serving legislator in the state's history; and

29 WHEREAS, Nationally, Senator Bishop served on the executive  
30 committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures as Colorado's  
31 representative and also sat on the Executive Committee of the Energy  
32 Council; and

33 WHEREAS, After his time in the legislature, Senator Bishop  
34 served on the University of Colorado Board of Regents, the Colorado

1 Mesa University Board of Trustees, and as a Mesa County Commissioner  
2 and did extensive work with the Grand Junction Lions Club; and

3 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop also served with the National Junior  
4 College World Series tournament for many years, the selection committee  
5 for the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame, and the Aspinall Scholarship  
6 Committee; and

7 WHEREAS, In appreciation of Senator Bishop's 38 years of public  
8 service, the Western Colorado Community College Bishop campus and  
9 the Tilman Bishop State Wildlife Area were named after him; and

10 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop was preceded in death by his son  
11 Barry, and his wife Pat passed away in 2021; and

12 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop is survived by many friends and  
13 former colleagues; and

14 WHEREAS, Senator Bishop was a devoted public servant who  
15 will be remembered for his hard work, dedication, and accomplishments;  
16 now, therefore,

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

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