



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-034

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Specialist (SPC) Rob Lee Nichols enlisted in the United States Army in 2010 and was initially assigned to Fort Stewart, Georgia; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, It is only fitting that SPC Rob Lee Nichol's bravery and love of country and his fellow man be recognized so that we may never forget his sacrifice to our great nation; now, therefore,

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

(1) That 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, Colorado, be renamed the "SPC Rob Lee Nichols Memorial Highway".

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

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

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the parents of SPC Rob Lee Nichols, Donna and Robert Ribisi of Colorado Springs; the City Councils of Cascade, Colorado Springs, Green Mountain Falls, Manitou Springs, and Woodland Park; the Mayor of Colorado Springs, John Suthers; the American Legion, Department of Colorado Commander Thomas Florez; the Board of County

Commissioners of El Paso county and Teller county; the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation; and the Colorado Transportation Commission.

Bill L. Cadman
PRESIDENT OF
THE SENATE

Dickey Lee Hullinghorst
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Effie Ameen
SECRETARY OF
THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES