SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 09-003

BY SENATOR(S) Cadman, Groff, Bacon, Boyd, Brophy, Carroll M., Foster, Gibbs, Harvey, Heath, Hodge, Hudak, Isgar, Keller, Kester, King K., Kopp, Lundberg, Mitchell, Morse, Newell, Penry, Renfroe, Romer, Sandoval, Scheffel, Schultheis, Schwartz, Shaffer B., Spence, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, White, Williams;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Weissmann, Acree, Apuan, Balmer, Baumgardner, Benefield, Bradford, Casso, Court, Curry, Ferrandino, Fischer, Frangas, Gagliardi, Gardner B., Gardner C., Gerou, Green, Hullinghorst, Judd, Kagan, Kefalas, Kerr A., Kerr J., King S., Labuda, Lambert, Levy, Liston, Looper, Marostica, Massey, May, McCann, McFadyen, McKinley, McNulty, Merrifield, Middleton, Miklosi, Murray, Nikkel, Pace, Peniston, Pommer, Primavera, Priola, Rice, Riesberg, Roberts, Ryden, Scanlan, Schafer S., Solano, Sonnenberg, Soper, Stephens, Summers, Swalm, Tipton, Todd, Vaad, Vigil, Waller, Carroll T..

MEMORIALIZING FORMER SENATE PRESIDENT RAY POWERS.

WHEREAS, By the Will of Divine Providence, our beloved former member, the Honorable Ray Powers, departed this life on September 19, 2008, at the age of 79; and

WHEREAS, Senator Powers was born on June 27, 1929, in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, After enduring the tragic loss of his father at the early age of 15, Ray Powers quit school in the 9th grade to run the family's El Paso County dairy ranch; and

WHEREAS, On December 14, 1975, Ray Powers married his beloved wife Dorothy; and

WHEREAS, In 1978, when he was 49 years old, Ray Powers was

elected to the Colorado House of Representatives, where he served for 2 years before moving to the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Senator Powers served for 20 years in the Colorado Senate and as Senate President during his last 2 years; and

WHEREAS, Colleagues on both sides of the aisle held Senator Powers in high esteem; and

WHEREAS, Former Senate Minority Leader Mike Feeley, quoted in the Colorado Statesman, called Senator Powers "a man of great courtesy and respect" and added that the "minority caucus always got a fair shake from Ray"; and

WHEREAS, The Colorado Springs Gazette quoted former Governor Bill Owens as saying, "He really led through friendship and through trust. People got to know Ray, they believed him and he was very effective in building on those relationships to pursue his legislative agenda"; and

WHEREAS, Senator Powers prided himself on good governance and on being accessible to constituents and to the media; and

WHEREAS, Senator Powers was also a great political organizer and a powerful figure in the Republican party, hosting countless fundraisers in his barn over a period of more than 2 decades; and

WHEREAS, In addition to running his family's dairy ranch, owning car dealerships, and serving in the State Senate, Senator Powers also served as president of the American Legislative Exchange Council, chairman of the Western Council of State Governments, president of the Colorado 4-H club, and vice-president of the National Dairy Council; now, therefore,

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

That, in the death of Ray Powers, the people of the state of Colorado have lost an outstanding citizen and dedicated public servant, and that we, the members of the Colorado Senate, do hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family and pay tribute to a man who served his community and his state well and faithfully.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Memorial be sent to Senator Powers' wife, Dorothy, of Colorado Springs.

Peter C. Groff PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE	Terrance D. Carroll SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Karen Goldman SECRETARY OF THE SENATE	Marilyn Eddins CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES