



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 09-020

BY SENATOR(S) Penry, White, Gibbs, Isgar, Schwartz, Bacon, Boyd, Brophy, Cadman, Carroll M., Foster, Groff, Harvey, Heath, Hodge, Hudak, Keller, Kester, King K., Kopp, Lundberg, Mitchell, Morse, Newell, Renfroe, Romer, Sandoval, Scheffel, Schultheis, Shaffer B., Spence, Tapia, Tochtrop, Veiga, Williams;

also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Baumgardner, Bradford, Curry, King S., Roberts, Tipton, Acree, Apuan, Benefield, Casso, Court, Ferrandino, Fischer, Frangas, Gagliardi, Gardner B., Gardner C., Gerou, Green, Hullinghorst, Judd, Kefalas, Kerr A., Kerr J., Labuda, Lambert, Levy, Liston, Looper, Marostica, May, McCann, McFadyen, McGihon, McKinley, McNulty, Merrifield, Middleton, Miklosi, Murray, Nikkel, Pace, Peniston, Pommer, Primavera, Priola, Rice, Riesberg, Ryden, Scanlan, Schafer S., Sonnenberg, Soper, Stephens, Summers, Swalm, Todd, Vaad, Vigil, Waller, Weissmann, Carroll T..

CONCERNING JOHN R. FETCHER.

WHEREAS, By the Will of Divine Providence, John R. Fetcher of Steamboat Springs, Colorado, departed this life on February 6, 2009, at the age of 97; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher was born January 1, 1912, in Winnetka, Illinois, and in 1922 began a three-year sojourn to France and Switzerland with his family, where he learned to ski; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher graduated from Harvard College in 1933 with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and earned a master of science in business and engineering in 1935; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher worked for two engineering firms and then spent several years in Paris, where he earned his pilot's license and designed the first metal ski before returning to the United States in 1938; and

WHEREAS, In 1949, Mr. Fetcher and his brother bought half of Angustorra Ranch near Clark, Colorado, eighteen miles north of Steamboat Springs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher helped launch the Steamboat Ski Area, supervised the reconstruction of the ski jumping complex at Howelsen Hill, and served as vice president and chief engineer for Storm Mountain Ski Corporation from 1959 to 1962 and as president of Mount Werner Ski Company from 1962 to 1971; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher's pioneering work on ski jumps and ski areas earned him a place in the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame in 1983; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher realized the importance of water to northwest Colorado and helped create Steamboat Lake and Stagecoach Reservoir, but his proudest achievement was building the Yamcolo Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fetcher served as a member and officer for several Colorado water authorities, including the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District; and

WHEREAS, In 1992, Mr. Fetcher received the Wayne N. Aspinnall Award for outstanding contributions to water use and conservation; and

WHEREAS, Even into his 90s, Mr. Fetcher carried a chainsaw in his vehicle in order to cut fallen lodgepole pines from roads on his ranch, and he continued to serve as secretary of the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District through the last months of his life; and

WHEREAS, When the history of Colorado water development is written, it will remember the life and contribution of John R. Fetcher as among the most important. He was a trailblazer whose life and legacy will be long remembered; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting that we pay tribute to the contributions of John R. Fetcher and express our deep regret and sorrow occasioned by his death; 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 John R. Fetcher, the people of the state of Colorado have lost an outstanding citizen and we extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of his family and pay tribute to a man who served his community well and faithfully.

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