

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

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. M23-0883.01 Justin McCabe x4143

HM23-1004

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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House Committees

HOUSE MEMORIAL 23-1004

101 **MEMORIALIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE JEANNE LABUDA.**

1 WHEREAS, Our respected former colleague, Jeanne Labuda, a
2 past member of the Colorado House of Representatives, departed this life
3 on July 25, 2022, at the age of 75; and

4 WHEREAS, Representative Labuda was born on February 6,
5 1947, in Agua Dulce, Texas, to Lillian and Steve Labuda; and

6 WHEREAS, Representative Labuda graduated from Henrietta M.
7 King High School in Kingsville, Texas, and went on to attend Texas A&I
8 University, now known as Texas A&M University-Kingsville, graduating
9 in 1968 with a degree in English and political science; and

10 WHEREAS, A lifelong enthusiast of traveling and experiencing
11 the world, Representative Labuda volunteered with the Peace Corps after
12 graduation and spent over two years as a high school teacher in Liberia
13 in West Africa, during which period she trekked across a southern portion
14 of the Sahara desert and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro; and

15 WHEREAS, Representative Labuda returned to the United States

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.

1 to work and to continue her education, and she met her future husband,
2 Michael Taber, whom she married in 1977; and

3 WHEREAS, After marrying, Representative Labuda moved with
4 her husband to Colorado and earned a Juris Doctor degree from the
5 University of Colorado Boulder in 1989, and soon after she joined the
6 Colorado Attorney General's Office as Assistant Attorney General until
7 1993; and

8 WHEREAS, In Colorado, Representative Labuda also quickly
9 became extensively involved in serving the community through many
10 guiding roles, such as a Girl Scout leader, a member of the Community
11 Advisory Board for the Father Ed Judy House, the board president of the
12 Harvey Park Improvement Association, a southwest Denver community
13 liaison for the mayor, a member of the Denver Planning Board under two
14 mayors, and the president of Denver's chapter of the American
15 Association of University Women; and

16 WHEREAS, From 2007 through 2014, Representative Labuda
17 served four terms in the state House of Representatives as the state
18 Representative for House District 1, representing the citizens of
19 Arapahoe, Denver, and Jefferson counties over the course of her time
20 with the General Assembly; and

21 WHEREAS, While serving as a state Representative,
22 Representative Labuda was a member of several House committees,
23 including the Finance committee, as Vice-chair; the State, Veterans, and
24 Military Affairs committee, as Vice-chair; the Agriculture, Livestock, and
25 Natural Resources committee; the Local Government committee; and the
26 Appropriations committee, as well as several joint, statutory, and interim
27 committees, most notably the Committee on Legal Services as both
28 Vice-chair and Chair throughout the years; and

29 WHEREAS, Representative Labuda believed in quality public
30 education and health, civic responsibility, empowerment of women and
31 girls, and, as someone with a deep and abounding love for the outdoors,
32 environmental policy; to that end, Representative Labuda sponsored bills
33 concerning physical and mental health and medical care, childhood and
34 higher education, public safety, land use, and parks and wilderness
35 protection; and

36 WHEREAS, Representative Labuda lived with amyotrophic lateral

1 sclerosis (ALS) toward the end of her life, but she will be remembered for
2 the adventures she embarked on in the natural world; among her many
3 accomplishments, Representative Labuda sailed off of the East Coast and
4 in the Caribbean, and she was known for climbing mountains, not only
5 Mount Kilimanjaro but also the Sierras in southern California, the Davis
6 mountains in western Texas, and even many of Colorado's own
7 fourteeners; and

8 WHEREAS, In the words of her family, Representative Labuda
9 was a "soul-centered" individual, a person who, with "her grit and her
10 positivity", always "saw the beauty in people everywhere she could"; and

11 WHEREAS, Representative Labuda was a devoted public servant
12 who will be remembered for her hard work, dedication, and
13 accomplishments; now, therefore,

14 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
15 *Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

16 That, in the death of Jeanne Labuda, the people of the State of
17 Colorado have lost a dedicated public servant and outstanding citizen, and
18 that we, the members of the Colorado House of Representatives, do
19 hereby extend our deep and heartfelt sympathy to the members of her
20 family and pay tribute to a woman who served her state well and
21 faithfully.

22 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Memorial be sent to
23 Michael Taber, Representative Labuda's husband; Danica Taber and
24 Emily Taber, her daughters; Therese Burgamy, her sister; Joe Labuda, her
25 brother; Becky Norrell, her stepsister; Janice Labuda, Marilyn White, and
26 Catherine Taber, her sisters-in-law; Daniel Taber and Patrick Taber, her
27 brothers-in-law; Laura Wilson and Ann Elizabeth Labuda, her nieces;
28 Steve Labuda, Paul Labuda, and Frank Labuda, her nephews; Michael
29 Makovy, Beverly Reid, Carole Lomerson, and Joyce Johnson, her
30 cousins; Dawn Taber-Cayer, Debbie Taber, and Scott Taber, her
31 cousins-in-law; former Representatives Sue Schafer, Su Ryden, Jeanne
32 Faatz, and Fran Coleman and former Senator Jeanne Nicholson, her
33 colleagues; and Fernando Aleman, Rosanne Maltese, Benita Campbell,
34 Peg Malchow-Sass, Emily Ward, Marti Davidson, Charlie Davidson,
35 Debbie Darrow, Ian Anderson, and John Robbins, her friends.