

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. \_\_\_\_\_

Honoring the life, achievements, and legacy of Ben Nighthorse Campbell.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Honoring the life, achievements, and legacy of Ben  
Nighthorse Campbell.

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell was born on April 13, 1933, in Auburn, California;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell joined the United States Air Force in 1951 and was stationed in Korea during the Korean War, serving as an air policeman;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell left the United States Air Force in 1953 with the rank of Airman Second Class and was awarded the Korean Service Medal and the Air Medal;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell went on to graduate from university and excel in judo, winning 3 national titles in the United States, competing in the 1963 Pan-American Games, and representing the United States on a global

stage during the 1964 Summer Olympics, where he was the first Native American to ever compete on the United States Olympic judo team;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell and his wife, Linda, moved to her home State of Colorado and went on to buy a ranch near Ignacio on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell learned how to fashion jewelry from his father, going on to create internationally award-winning jewelry and founding Nighthorse Jewelry, a successful family business that spans 3 generations of craftsmanship;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell was elected to the Colorado State Legislature, where he served for 4 years and was voted one of the 10 best legislators by his colleagues;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell was then elected to the House of Representatives in 1986, becoming one of the few enrolled members of a federally recognized Tribe to serve in the United States Congress;

Whereas, during his tenure in the House of Representatives, Ben Nighthorse Campbell authored landmark legislation to establish the National Museum of the American Indian, honoring the legacy of American indigenous communities;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell also authored legislation elevating Black Canyon of the Gunnison to a national park, creating the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site, and passed the Animas-La Plata water projects for the Southern Ute Indian and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell was then elected to the Senate in 1993, serving as the chair of the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate between 1997 and 2005;

Whereas, during the 105th Congress, Ben Nighthorse Campbell passed more legislation than any other Member of the Senate;

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell was the first and only American Indian to chair the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and was a member of the Council of 44 Chiefs of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe; and

Whereas Ben Nighthorse Campbell was a trailblazer who championed bipartisan action and dedicated his entire life in service of his community, the people of Colorado, and the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) has heard with profound sorrow and deep  
3       regret the announcement of the death of Ben  
4       Nighthorse Campbell, former Senator from Colo-  
5       rado;

6               (2) honors the life, achievements, and legacy of  
7       Ben Nighthorse Campbell for—

8               (A) his service to his country in the United  
9       States Air Force; and

10              (B) his exceptional tenure as a Member of  
11       both the Senate and the House of Representa-  
12       tives;

13              (3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the  
14       Senate to—

1                   (A) communicate this resolution to the  
2           House of Representatives; and

3                   (B) transmit an enrolled copy of this reso-  
4           lution to the family of Ben Nighthorse Camp-  
5           bell; and

6           (4) stands adjourned as a further mark of re-  
7           spect to the memory of the late Ben Nighthorse  
8           Campbell when the Senate adjourns today.