

REFERENCE TITLE: death resolution; Ed Pastor

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fourth Legislature
First Regular Session
2019

HCR 2041

Introduced by
Representatives Fernandez: Bowers

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN ED PASTOR.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Edward "Ed" López Pastor, distinguished statesman and the first
2 Hispanic member of Congress from Arizona, passed away on November 27, 2018
3 at the age of seventy-five.

4 Born to Enrique and Margarita Pastor, Ed Pastor grew up in the
5 copper mining town of Claypool, Arizona. The first in his family to
6 attend college, he received a scholarship to Arizona State University
7 where he earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He taught high school
8 and worked as deputy director of a community nonprofit group before
9 earning his law degree from the Arizona State University College of Law.
10 Following law school, he joined the staff of Arizona Governor Raúl Héctor
11 Castro, where he worked on civil rights and equal opportunity issues.

12 With his election to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors in
13 1976, Ed Pastor embarked on a remarkable record of public service. After
14 three terms on the county board of supervisors, he was elected to Congress
15 in 1991, where he became known as a trailblazer by all who had the
16 privilege of working with him over the years. He ably served on the House
17 committees on Agriculture, Education and Labor and Small Business, as well
18 as the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. During his
19 twenty-three years in Congress, he distinguished himself as an extremely
20 diligent, principled and thoughtful public servant, and he earned the
21 well-deserved respect and admiration of his peers on both sides of the
22 political aisle.

23 An iconic leader and tireless advocate for the citizens of Arizona,
24 Ed Pastor supported immigration and education reform and universal health
25 care. His background in chemistry provided him extensive insights into
26 the environmental challenges facing the nation, and he was dedicated to
27 the conservation of the country's national parks and wetlands. As a
28 member of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee for most
29 of his tenure, he championed local infrastructure projects, including
30 those related to energy development, water access and mass transit.
31 Notably, he helped secure funding for the research, development and
32 construction of the Phoenix Metro Light Rail System. Outside of his
33 committee duties, he served as chairman of the Congressional Hispanic
34 Caucus and the Congressional Progressive Caucus, and in 1999 earned a
35 leadership position as chief deputy whip. Following his retirement from
36 Congress in 2015, Congressman Pastor continued to serve the State of
37 Arizona by spearheading the Pastor Center for Politics and Public Service
38 at Arizona State University, which works to foster civic engagement by
39 students. He leaves behind a tremendous legacy of devotion to public
40 service.

41 Dedicated to his family, Ed Pastor is survived by his wife of
42 fifty-three years, Verma, their two daughters, Laura and Yvonne, and four
43 grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family, his friends and
44 the people of the State of Arizona.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,
3 the Senate concurring:

4 That the Members of the Legislature sincerely regret the passing of
5 Congressman Ed Pastor and extend their deepest sympathies to his family
6 and many friends.