

By: Senator K. Ingram

## SENATE RESOLUTION

HONORING CHARLIE AND DOW MCVEAN FOR THEIR WORK IN THE  
DELTA AND WITH BIG RIVER CROSSING.

### Subtitle

HONORING CHARLIE AND DOW MCVEAN FOR THEIR  
WORK IN THE DELTA AND WITH BIG RIVER  
CROSSING.

WHEREAS, in 2009, lifelong Memphians Charlie and Dow McVean had a dream to provide a bike and pedestrian crossing over the Mississippi River connecting Tennessee and Arkansas as part of their vision for a multi-state, Mississippi river bike and pedestrian trail; and the purpose of that dream was to create new economic development potential through expanded tourism and visitation in West Memphis, Arkansas, and throughout the Delta region; and

WHEREAS, the Big River Crossing opened in October 2016 after 6 years of dedicated work and millions of dollars, raised and also contributed by the McVeans; and today the Big River Crossing is the only bike and pedestrian bridge adjacent to an active rail line in the United States and is bringing thousands of new visitors to West Memphis and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the McVeans did not stop with just a pedestrian bridge connecting downtown Memphis and West Memphis; the bridge and other new development projects are expected to make West Memphis a more desirable place to live, with greater economic potential than ever before; and in keeping with their commitment to Eastern Arkansas, the media firm owned by the McVeans is also promoting visitation within the region; and



WHEREAS, additional projects include a 73-mile levee top trail system and development of a Delta Regional River Park with extraordinary views of downtown Memphis and more than 7 miles of trails, interpretative sites, environmental education resources, and reforestation; and future plans include improvements along the Mississippi River, the St. Francis National Forest, and connections to the Delta Heritage Trail in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the McVeans are continuing to work closely with land management and transportation agencies in Arkansas to create the greatest benefit possible for our state,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate recognizes and honors the hard work, dedication, and efforts of Charlie and Dow McVean in contributing to the growth and prosperity of the Delta region, the city of West Memphis, and the State of Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to Charlie and Dow McVean by the Secretary of the Senate.