

By: Representative Gillam

HOUSE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF TIM MASSANELLI AND IN
RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF
ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF TIM MASSANELLI
AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, Garland Edward "Tim" Massanelli, born in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, to Italian immigrants Evo and Cezira Massanelli, died on February 12, 2018, at the age of eight-five (85) years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Massanelli attended Drury University in Missouri before returning to Arkansas, where he worked in a variety of careers before going to work at the State Capitol as a sound man and unofficial parliamentarian; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Massanelli ended up as the official parliamentarian, coordinator of legislative services, and assistant to the speaker, and became a legend in the hallowed Capitol building and beyond; and he retired after nearly four (4) decades, working with over one thousand (1,000) legislators, seven (7) governors, and nineteen (19) speakers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Massanelli oversaw the evolution and growth of the House of Representatives from a body with no paid staff to a full staff offering wide-ranging services; and



WHEREAS, Mr. Massanelli also weathered the dramatic change in the legislature when term limits were adopted, taking Arkansas from a state with no term limits to one with stringent term limits; and though that change offered him an unprecedented opportunity to make his role and knowledge even more indispensable, he opposed shorter limits and used the opportunity to encourage members to learn even more about the legislative process and rely on him less; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Massanelli, affectionately known as "Boss" by everyone, was a walking encyclopedia of parliamentary process and procedure, with a complete mastery of the rules, rendering him ". . . as important to the legislative process as the Capitol dome itself", according to former Governor and Senator David Pryor; and

WHEREAS, not only did Mr. Massanelli know the legislative process like the back of his hand, he also facilitated that process with an unparalleled sense of humor and an affable personality that gave him an ability to get along with one hundred (100) different personalities at a time, giving each person individual and objective attention; and

WHEREAS, as former speaker Shane Broadway said, "All the things that have been good that have come out of that chamber, he has had an influence on. Every member who has ever done anything in that chamber trusted Tim for his advice",

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the House of Representatives remember and commend Tim Massanelli for his hard work, dedication, and many contributions to the House of Representatives and to the State of Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the House of Representatives hereby express sincere condolences to the family of Tim Massanelli, and upon adoption of this resolution, that an appropriate copy be

provided to the family of Mr. Massanelli by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.