

By: Senator D. Wallace

SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

TO REMEMBER BILL PHILLIPS AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO REMEMBER BILL PHILLIPS AND TO
RECOGNIZE HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE
OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, Mr. William Richard "Bill" Phillips was born on February 5, 1949, to Hazel and Earl Phillips of Harrison, Arkansas, and died on November 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Bill developed early athletic talent and earned a football scholarship to Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas, following graduation from Harrison High School in 1968; was a four-year letterman at Arkansas State University from 1968 until 1971; led the 1970 football team to an unblemished 11-0 season and the small college National Championship; was named twice to the First Team All-Southland Conference in 1969 and 1970; was named to First Team All-America in 1970 by the Associated Press as the only junior selected; was selected by coaches to the Southland Conference All-Decade Team; was selected an Annual All-American Game Team Member in 1972; was a second round draft pick by the Denver Broncos in 1972; was selected by fans to the All-Time Arkansas State University Football Team in 1976; and was selected in 2014 as a member of the Arkansas State University All-Centennial Team; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas State University inducted Bill into the Athletics' Hall of Honor in 1992; made him a member of the Ring of Honor in 2003, an



honor commemorated with his name hanging in the Arkansas State University football stadium; and named him a Distinguished Alumnus in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Bill was also inducted into the Harrison High School Hall of Fame and twice into the Arkansas Sports of Hall of Fame, in 2015 as an individual and in 2016 as a member of the 1970 Arkansas State University football team; and

WHEREAS, while at Arkansas State University, Bill met Peggy Ann Brinkley of Turrell, Arkansas, whom he married and took with him to Denver when he played for the Denver Broncos; and

WHEREAS, Bill and Peggy returned home from Denver in 1974, and Bill went to work for Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield in sales and marketing, a job that was a natural fit with his larger-than-life personality; after winning just about every sales and marketing award from Blue Cross Blue Shield, in 1986 the organization tapped him to lead the newly formed Government Relations division, where Bill quickly made a smooth transition from sales to lobbying; and in 1998, he started Phillips Management and Consulting Service, Inc., a lobbying group he served as president of until November 2020; and

WHEREAS, Bill was involved in professional and civic organizations, including memberships on the boards of the Major Sports Association, Family Service Agency, Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in Arkansas, and The Little Rock Club; chairmanships of the Board of Trustees of Arkansas State University, CF Sports Challenge, Kids Voting Arkansas, Arkansas State University Golf Tournament, and the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame; cochairmanship of the Arkansas United States Olympic Committee; and service as an Arkansas Traveler, often traveling with Bill Clinton, and in the Bill Clinton for President Campaign as an Ambassador to Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, Bill was a devout Christian and is survived by his loving wife of fifty-two (52) years Peggy, his son Bradley, his grandson Little Bill, his sister and brother-in-law Kay and Rusty Hayes, and numerous beloved cousins, nieces, and nephews; and is preceded in death by his parents and his brother

Jim Phillips,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate remember Bill Phillips for his service and dedication
to the State of Arkansas and extend sincere condolences to the family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be
provided to the family by the Secretary of the Senate.