

By: Senators M. Johnson, B. Ballinger, Beckham, Bledsoe, Caldwell, L. Chesterfield, A. Clark, B. Davis, J. Dismang, L. Eads, Elliott, J. English, Flippo, S. Flowers, T. Garner, Gilmore, K. Hammer, J. Hendren, Hester, Hickey, Hill, K. Ingram, Irvin, B. Johnson, G. Leding, M. Pitsch, Rapert, Rice, B. Sample, G. Stubblefield, J. Sturch, D. Sullivan, Teague, C. Tucker, D. Wallace

SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

TO REMEMBER PAUL GREENBERG AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO REMEMBER PAUL GREENBERG AND HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, as Bill Bowden wrote in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Mr. Paul Greenberg "chronicled Arkansas politics and culture, with a sharp pen and a literary mind", for more than half a century; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenberg was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on January 21, 1937, the son of Ben and Sarah Greenberg, and worked on the high school newspaper in Shreveport, saying, "I grew up on the editorials in The Shreveport Times. I think that's one of the reasons I take seriously the job of an editorial writer."; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenberg attended Centenary College in Shreveport for two (2) years before going to the University of Missouri, where he earned a bachelor's degree in journalism in 1958 and a master's degree in history the next year, before doing some postgraduate work in American history at Columbia University in New York City; and

WHEREAS, although he had taught history at Hunter College while in



graduate school, he said his first job after college was with the Pine Bluff Commercial, where he was hired in 1962 at twenty-five (25) years of age, and it was a job that gave him the chance to move back to the South, which he loved as much as his hometown of Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenberg stayed at the Pine Bluff Commercial for nearly thirty (30) years and served as the editorial page editor, during which time he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1969 for editorials written in 1968 about civil rights; and when discussing his award of the highest honor in the profession of journalism, he said, "Most of the editorials dealt with the integration of Pine Bluff schools and society. It was pro-integration, pro-civil rights, anti-[presidential candidate George] Wallace, against massive resistance, against the Southern Manifesto."; and

WHEREAS, Edmond Freeman of Little Rock, who was the publisher of the Pine Bluff Commercial at the time of Mr. Greenberg's tenure, would edit the editorials that Mr. Greenberg wrote and said that besides being a gifted writer, Mr. Greenberg had a strong work ethic, continuing to work even while on vacation; and because of his efforts, Mr. Greenberg went on to be a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize again in 1978 and in 1986; and

WHEREAS, in 1992 Mr. Greenberg was hired by the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette to be its editorial page editor and to write a column; he stepped down as editorial page editor at the end of July 2015 but continued to write columns and editorials for the paper; under his leadership, the editorial page of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette won several awards on state and national levels, including a first place win in 2013 for editorial writing in the seventy-ninth National Headliner Awards; Walter E. Hussmann Jr., publisher of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette and chairman of WEHCO Media, said Greenberg's death will reverberate beyond Arkansas's borders: "It's a tremendous loss, not just for the Democrat-Gazette but for the state of Arkansas and for journalism in America. Paul Greenberg was just unparalleled and unique as far as editorial writers go. He was one of the finest if not the finest in America. I've often told people the best part of my job is to review the editorials. I love to read beautiful writing, and he wrote beautifully."; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenberg said, "I would like to think that I would have enjoyed the study and teaching of history, but I can't really imagine anything as much fun as I have had writing editorials and writing columns", and along with spending his adult life doing that, he wrote three (3) books, liked to read books, and enjoyed listening to all types of music; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Greenberg's first wife, Carolyn Levy Greenberg, died in 1995, and they had two (2) children, Daniel and Ruth; in March 2015, Mr. Greenberg married Sarah Brooke Malloy of Little Rock; and Mr. Greenberg's son and former member of the House of Representatives, Daniel Greenberg, said, "I think that the world knew one kind of Paul Greenberg, who was occasionally something of a sharp critic of the powers that be and was sort of a skilled portraitist of many public officials and gave us fascinating perspectives of the values that under[lie] Arkansas politics and government. And there's also the private Paul Greenberg, who maybe not as many people knew about, and the private Paul Greenberg was a loving father who taught me many lessons about being a good family man and carrying out a life of ethics and principles.",

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate express sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Paul Greenberg and remember him and his contributions to the State of Arkansas.

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