

By: Senators G. Stubblefield, A. Clark

SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF SENATOR LINDA COLLINS AND IN
RECOGNITION OF HER MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF
ARKANSAS AND HER LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Subtitle

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF SENATOR LINDA
COLLINS AND IN RECOGNITION OF HER MANY
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
AND HER LOCAL COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, Linda Collins, born on April 17, 1962, in Pocahontas, Arkansas, to Benny and the late Carolyn Vernice Hunnicutt Collins, died on June 4, 2019, at fifty-seven (57) years of age; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Collins received her education in Williford, Arkansas, and was a businesswoman, entrepreneur, and was self-employed for numerous decades as the owner of an award-winning lodging business in Pocahontas and a nationally recognized real estate agent and regional manager; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Collins served as past president of the Arkansas Lodging Association, was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, was founding member of the Friends of the NRA in Hardy, Arkansas, served on the Arkansas Ethics Commission and the Lower Mississippi Delta Development Council, and was founder of the Randolph County Tourism Association; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Collins was elected to the House of Representatives in 2010 and served one (1) term, switched from the Democratic Party to the



Republican Party in 2011, and was elected to the Senate in 2014 and served one (1) term; and

WHEREAS, Senator Collins recognized the importance of working with other legislators across the United States, serving in the Southern Legislative Conference and the American Legislative Exchange Council and on committees and task forces of both entities; and in 2015, she was appointed to serve as Arkansas State Director for the National Foundation for Women Legislators, which is the nation's oldest organization that addresses the needs of elected women at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, Senator Collins was a long-time member of Sutton Free Will Baptist Church in Pocahontas and she loved God and her family; she served her community, her state, and her country; she was a cherished member of her community and was a dear friend to many across the state, never meeting a stranger; and she was dedicated to her constituents and worked tirelessly to serve them; and

WHEREAS, Senator Collins was a member of Gun Owners of America, the Arkansas Hospitality Association, the National Federation of Independent Business, the Arkansas Chamber of Commerce, the Randolph County Arkansas Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club, the Arkansas Lodging Association, and the Arkansas Federation of Republican Women; and

WHEREAS, Senator Collins left to cherish her memory her father Benny Collins, children Butch Smith and his wife Jennifer of Pocahontas and Heather Tate Williams and her husband John of Bryant, sister Kathy Franks, grandchildren Reese Williams of Bryant and Brayden Smith and Jackson Smith of Pocahontas, and numerous family members and friends,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate remember and commend Senator Linda Collins for her hard work, dedication, and many contributions to the State of

Arkansas and her local community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the Senate hereby express sincere condolences to the family of Senator Collins, and upon adoption of this resolution, that an appropriate copy be provided to the family of Senator Collins by the Secretary of the Senate.