

By: Representative M. Shepherd

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING ROY RAGLAND, CHIEF OF STAFF FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UPON HIS RETIREMENT, AND COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS NINETEEN YEARS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

### Subtitle

CONGRATULATING ROY RAGLAND, CHIEF OF STAFF FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, UPON HIS RETIREMENT, AND COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS NINETEEN YEARS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland began his career with the House of Representatives in 2005 and after nineteen (19) years with the state will retire; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland, was elected to the House of Representatives in 2004 to represent the citizens of Madison County, Newton County, and parts of Searcy County; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland served his district and the State of Arkansas as a member of the House of Representatives from 2005 through 2011; and



WHEREAS, Roy Ragland was known to his colleagues in the House of Representatives as a man of dignity, a man who looked after the interests of all citizens of the state, and a man of his word; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the House of Representatives, Roy Ragland continued his service in state government by working as the Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs for former Secretary of State Mark Martin; and

WHEREAS, understanding the need for a person with knowledge of the House of Representatives, former Speaker Davy Carter brought Roy Ragland back to the place he belonged as the Director of Member Services in December of 2012; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland's commitment to and love of the House of Representatives was evident to members on both sides of the aisle, and in 2016 he was promoted to Deputy Chief of Staff by former Speaker Jeremy Gillam; and

WHEREAS, just one (1) year later, former Speaker Gillam promoted Roy Ragland to serve as the Chief of Staff for the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland, while working for the House of Representatives, earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in History in August of 2018 and a Master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland has witnessed the evolution of the change in majority party control from Democratic to Republican for the first time since Reconstruction in the House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland has been a counselor, mentor, confidant, and friend to the House of Representatives members and House of Representatives staff while preserving the standard of his role in the House of Representatives and protecting the legislative institution as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland is admired and respected by the members of the

House of Representatives for his discretion, historical knowledge of the House of Representatives, humor, kindness, and insight; and

WHEREAS, Roy Ragland has been integral in forging a strong working relationship between the House of Representatives and the Bureau of Legislative Research and has done so to ensure a cohesive General Assembly that works toward a common goal; and

WHEREAS, while Roy Ragland will be greatly missed by the General Assembly, his retirement will allow him to spend more time with his wife Gail Ragland, his son Jeremy, and his extended family; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Matthew Shepherd stated “Roy’s dedication and tireless commitment to the House has helped the General Assembly through numerous challenges and successes. From organizing a session in a basketball arena during an unprecedented time to daily ensuring members and staff have what they need to serve the people of Arkansas, Roy has been an invaluable member of my leadership team and I will miss his counsel. I wish him the very best in his well-earned retirement”,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the House of Representatives commends Roy Ragland for his distinguished service to the State of Arkansas and the legislative branch of government, thanks him for his countless contributions, and wishes him all the best in his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be provided to Roy Ragland by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.