

By: Senators K. Hammer, A. Clark

## **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE PETE COPPOCK AND SHIRLEY PARSON COPPOCK  
ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR SEVENTIETH WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY.

### **Subtitle**

TO RECOGNIZE PETE COPPOCK AND SHIRLEY  
PARSON COPPOCK ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR  
SEVENTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

WHEREAS, a lifetime marital commitment requires love, faith, trust in one another, and a dedication to the constant pursuit of a strong and healthy relationship; and

WHEREAS, Merriett B. "Pete" Coppock and Shirley Parson Coppock made that commitment seventy (70) years ago and since that time they have led lives expressive of their desire to uphold their relationship, helping it grow and mature; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock and Shirley Parson met in 1953 after Pete returned home from the Korean War, when Pete was chauffeuring his brother, Ruil, and Ruil's friends to a skating party, and Shirley was a part of that group of friends; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock and Shirley Parson married a little more than one (1) year later on Sunday, June 13, 1954, at 9:00 a.m. in Shirley's parents'



living room by the New Friendship pastor J.W. Kestner, and thereafter honeymooned in Eureka Springs, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock is the daughter of Zack Parson and Ida Greenlee Parson; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock joined the Saline Missionary Baptist Church in 1954 and served as a teacher for Sunday School, Building Tomorrow's Church, and Vacation Bible School for many years; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock also served as the secretary and treasurer of the Saline Missionary Baptist Church and compiled the church's history from the years 1887–1977, the update to which is a work in progress; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock assisted Frank Jacobs with the Federal Housing Administration in getting water to the Tull and Shaw areas in Saline County, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock was a charter member of the Saline County History and Heritage Society in 1986 and served in various chairmanships, the longest of which was Program Chairman; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock has been a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Provincia de la Sal Chapter, since 1970, and served as the Chapter Regent and in many other offices, such as the Caddo District Director and the State Recording Secretary of the State Office; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock is a member of the Bauxite Ladies Association and developed a scholarship fund for Bauxite High School graduates; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Parson Coppock worked as a reporter for the Saline County News, Saline County Pacesetter, and Benton Courier, as well as worked as a secretary and receptionist for Dr. Carl Koen, Dr. David Evans, and attorneys Bob Hardin and Curtis Rickard; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock is the son of Ernest Coppock and Mary Williams Coppock; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock joined the Saline Missionary Baptist Church in 1942 and was instrumental in helping to restore the church after it was severely damaged by a tornado on April 30, 1940, and he also started teaching Sunday School in 1948, as well as served as Song Director, Deacon, Treasurer, and "Mr. Fix-It"; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock served in the Korean War from 1951–1953 as a forward observer and survived stepping on a land mine, although his comrades did not, and he later returned to frontline duty; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock was employed briefly at Norton Company before joining A.P. Green Refractories Company, where he worked for thirty-two (32) years, twenty-seven (27) of which were as a plant manager; and

WHEREAS, at A.P. Green Refractories Company, Pete Coppock worked in mining and surveying, the mine ore from which was processed for fire brick and brick to line Cape Kennedy's launch pads; and

WHEREAS, Pete Coppock and Shirley Parson Coppock have cultivated a beautiful life together which was not without struggles but, through their faith in God and their love of each other, they have conquered all,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate takes great pride in recognizing Mr. Pete Coppock and Mrs. Shirley Parson Coppock on the occasion of their seventieth wedding anniversary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be transmitted to Mr. Pete Coppock and Mrs. Shirley Parson Coppock by

the Chief Clerk of the Senate.