

By: Senators Rice, J. Boyd, J. Bryant, Caldwell, A. Clark, Crowell, B. Davis, Dees, J. Dismang, J. Dotson, J. English, Flippo, S. Flowers, Gilmore, K. Hammer, Hester, Hickey, Hill, Irvin, B. Johnson, M. Johnson, B. King, G. Leding, F. Love, M. McKee, R. Murdock, J. Payton, C. Penzo, J. Petty, J. Scott, Simon, Stone, D. Sullivan, C. Tucker, D. Wallace

SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF SENATOR GARY DON STUBBLEFIELD
AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Subtitle

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF SENATOR GARY DON
STUBBLEFIELD AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS
MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF
ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, Arkansas State Senator Gary Don Stubblefield, formerly of Branch, passed away on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at the age of seventy-four (74); and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield was born on February 28, 1951, in Charleston, Arkansas, to H.T. "Tottie" Stubblefield and Beulah Mae Stubblefield; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield was raised on a small family farm on Mill Creek Mountain, before his family moved to a farm in Branch, where his family cleared the land by hand and raised Holstein milk cows; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield would milk cows before and after school each day, and would ride his bicycle for two (2) miles each way to



catch a school bus to and from the County Line school, where he played basketball in junior and senior high; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville where he successfully walked on to the Arkansas Razorbacks football team, despite having never played football as County Line schools did not have a football program at that time; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield had a successful football career with the Arkansas Razorbacks football team as a cornerback and on special teams and with whom he played in the Liberty Bowl and the Cotton Bowl; and

WHEREAS, while attending the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Senator Gary Stubblefield met his wife, Kathi, whom he married in 1974, and with whom he raised his daughter, Amber, and son, Joshua, while running his family dairy farm; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield subsequently began a life of public service, serving as a Justice of the Peace on the Franklin County Quorum Court, as a member of the School Board of the County Line School District, as a member of the Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board, to which he was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee, as a board member of the SFA Farmers Co-Op, as a member of the National Association of Christian Lawmakers, and as a member of the Convention of States; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield was elected to the House of Representatives as Representative for House District 67 in 2011, where he served a single term before running for election in the Senate; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield was elected to the Senate in 2013, where he served as Senator for Senate District 23 until his passing in 2025; and

WHEREAS, during his time in the Senate, Senator Gary Stubblefield served as Chair of the City, County and Local Affairs Committee, as Chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, and as Vice-Chair of the Game and

Fish/State Police Subcommittee of the Legislative Council; and

WHEREAS, during his time in the Senate, Senator Gary Stubblefield served as a member of the Legislative Council, the Claims Review Subcommittee of the Legislative Council, the Charitable, Penal and Correctional Institutions Subcommittee of the Legislative Council, the Highway Commission Review and Advisory Subcommittee of the Legislative Council, the Joint Budget Committee, the State Insurance Programs Oversight Subcommittee, the Senate Committee on Judiciary, the Senate Efficiency Committee, the Joint Committee on Energy, the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, and the Committee on Counties and Municipalities of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield was known for his strong faith and diligence, and was a lifelong member of the First Baptist Church in Branch, which he became a member of in 1976, and where he served as a deacon, as Sunday school superintendent, and as a Sunday school youth boys' teacher for thirty-four (34) years; and

WHEREAS, Senator Gary Stubblefield is survived by his wife of fifty-one (51) years, Kathi Stubblefield, by his two (2) children, Amber Sullivan and Joshua Stubblefield, and by his ten (10) grandchildren,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate remember Senator Gary Don Stubblefield and recognize his enormous contributions to the State of Arkansas and to his local community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy be provided to Kathi Stubblefield and family by the Secretary of the Senate.