

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Fiscal Session, 2024  
4  
5 By: Senator M. Johnson

SR 26

6  
7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE RANDY HANKINS, WHOSE RADIO AND  
9 TELEVISION NAME IS CRAIG O'NEILL, FOR HIS MANY YEARS  
10 IN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING.

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12  
13 **Subtitle**

14 TO RECOGNIZE RANDY HANKINS, WHOSE RADIO  
15 AND TELEVISION NAME IS CRAIG O'NEILL, FOR  
16 HIS MANY YEARS IN RADIO AND TELEVISION  
17 BROADCASTING.

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21  
22 WHEREAS, Randy Hankins, whose radio and television name is Craig  
23 O'Neill, was born to Earnest Hankins and Judy Merritt Hankins in the Old  
24 Saint Vincent Hospital in Little Rock, Arkansas, on October 19, 1950, and is  
25 the oldest of four (4) children; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, after graduating from Little Rock Central High School in 1968,  
28 Craig enrolled at Arkansas State University at Jonesboro; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, while Craig was attending Arkansas State University, he  
31 enrolled in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) for two (2) years; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, in 1972, he received a Bachelor of Science degree from  
34 Arkansas State University in Radio/Television Journalism; and

35  
36 WHEREAS, prior to graduating from Arkansas State University, Craig



1 married Ruth Jane Fryer, an artist, in 1971, and the couple has two children,  
2 Abby Hankins Kirby and Thomas Hankins; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, his radio career began in Jonesboro when he accepted a job at  
5 a Jonesboro radio station, KBTM; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, in 1972, Craig began working in broadcasting and advertising  
8 sales at KARN in Little Rock; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, the program director at KARN felt that the name Craig O'Neill  
11 had a better ring to it than Randy Hankins did, so Randy became known as  
12 Craig O'Neill; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, Craig joined the staff of KLAZ in the winter of 1978 and began  
15 making his famous prank telephone calls; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, his first prank telephone call was to Governor David Pryor and  
18 his opponent in the United States Senatorial race, Jim Guy Tucker. Craig  
19 posed as President Jimmy Carter in wishing both Governor Pryor and Mr. Tucker  
20 luck in their upcoming election; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, in 1981, Craig left the staff of KLAZ and began working at  
23 KKYK, becoming the number one disc jockey in Little Rock. During his career  
24 at KKYK, he continued to make prank telephone calls and perfected his  
25 impersonation of President Ronald Reagan; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, Craig traveled to Hollywood, California, on several occasions  
28 and appeared in a 1987 movie that was made in Arkansas, titled "Pass the  
29 Ammo"; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, after ten (10) years at KKYK, Craig moved to neighboring radio  
32 station KURB in 1991; and

33  
34 WHEREAS, in 1991, two (2) days before the Arkansas Razorbacks played  
35 the Texas Longhorns in Little Rock, as the morning DJ at KURB, Craig called  
36 the University of Texas athletic department to explain to them how a

1 groundskeeper at War Memorial Stadium added an extra "S" to Texas; and

2  
3 WHEREAS, Craig became the stadium announcer for all home football games  
4 for the Arkansas Razorbacks in 1997 and started the famous "That's another  
5 Arkansas Razorback – First Down!"; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, Craig worked at KURB, which was known as B98.5, until December  
8 1999. While at KURB, he helped charities raise money and estimates he has  
9 worked at more than two thousand (2,000) fundraisers for charity. He is well  
10 known for freely giving of himself, his talent, and his time to charitable  
11 causes; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, on January 1, 2000, Craig made the move from radio to  
14 television, going from KURB to KTHV Channel-11 as the Sports Director for  
15 KTHV. He jokes that to get the job at KTHV he parked at the front door of  
16 their station for months asking to be put on television; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, Craig transferred from sports director to evening news anchor  
19 in 2008; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, Craig was famous for his line "Can I get a Hogalleulah?"  
22 during his TV interviews; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, after fifty (50) years of being in radio and television, his  
25 last broadcast on KTHV was the 10:00 p.m. newscast on December 29, 2023; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, Craig is an enthusiastic supporter of early childhood reading  
28 and regularly reads to school-age children. When coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)  
29 closed down daycare centers and schools, he switched his Reading Road Trip to  
30 a Virtual Road Trip; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, after retiring from television, Craig returned to radio in  
33 February 2024 as a weekly contributor to the 103.7 "The Buzz" radio  
34 broadcast; and

35  
36 WHEREAS, in an Arkansas Democrat-Gazette newspaper article, Craig said,

1 "I've learned the true power of stories. We tend to think it's about me, me,  
2 me, but in the last 24 years, I've learned that it's about you, you, you,  
3 you. I've been lucky to collaborate and share stories about you"; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, the archival collection of Randy Hankins is officially known  
6 as the Craig O'Neill Collection at the University of Central Arkansas  
7 Archives. He is much better known as Craig O'Neill than Randy Hankins, so it  
8 is in everyone's best interest for the collection's name to carry his radio  
9 and television moniker,  
10

11 NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
13 STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
14

15 THAT the Senate recognize and congratulate Randy Hankins, also known as  
16 Craig O'Neill, on his many years in both radio and television broadcasting.  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy be  
19 transmitted to Randy Hankins by the Secretary of the Senate.  
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