

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

HCMR 1001

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5 By: Representatives Overbey, Lea  
6 By: Senator Trusty

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9 **HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL**  
10 **RESOLUTION**

11 IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF JUDGE RICHARD MOBLEY AND  
12 IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
13 STATE OF ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

14  
15 **Subtitle**

16 IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF JUDGE RICHARD  
17 MOBLEY AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY  
18 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS  
19 AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

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21  
22 WHEREAS, Judge Richard Mobley, of Russellville, Arkansas, died on July  
23 4, 2008, at the age of ninety-one (91) years; and

24  
25 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley was born on a farm in Grenada County,  
26 Mississippi, as the son of the late Sion and Margaret Clifford Mobley;  
27 graduated from Helena High School; and enrolled at the University of Arkansas  
28 at Fayetteville in 1937, where he was a member of Sigma Chi Fraternity and  
29 Omicron Delta Kappa and served as editor of the 1940 yearbook, *The Razorback*;  
30 and

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32 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley went on to the University of Arkansas School of  
33 Law, where he was a member of Phi Alpha Delta Fraternity; and

34  
35 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley, along with a number of other law students, took  
36 the bar examination early so that he could enlist upon graduation following



1 the attack on Pearl Harbor in December of 1941; completed the Army's Officers  
2 Candidate School and received a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the  
3 Field Artillery; went to Fort Sill for artillery training, to Fort Campbell  
4 where he was assigned to the 98th Infantry Division, and then to the Pacific  
5 Theater; and completed his military obligation, serving with the occupation  
6 forces in Japan; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, after the war, Judge Mobley practiced law in Russellville,  
9 Arkansas, with his father-in-law Reece Caudle; completed an unexpired term as  
10 chancery and probate judge in the early 1950s; in 1962 was elected chancellor  
11 of the then-Ninth Judicial Circuit, which he served until 1979 when the  
12 circuit became the Fifth Judicial Circuit; and served as chancellor of the  
13 Fifth Judicial Circuit until his retirement in 1990; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley had a distinguished career that spanned six (6)  
16 decades; devoted his life to being an advocate and a judge; and was always  
17 known for his respect for the law, his swift, impartial, and consistent  
18 justice, and his honesty, integrity, and tireless effort; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley was a pioneer of Arkansas domestic relations  
21 jurisprudence, introducing a uniform schedule of child support payments, the  
22 basis for the family support formulas used by judges today; and took an  
23 active interest in the welfare of the children and families of divorce; and

24  
25 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley presided over several well-known oil and gas law  
26 cases as the practice area evolved in Northwest Arkansas; and he was invited  
27 to speak at the Natural Resources Law Institute in 1984 and 1987 due to his  
28 reputation and expertise in oil and gas law; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley served as the first chair of the Family Law  
31 Section of the Arkansas Bar Association in 1971; served as the chair of the  
32 editorial review committee for the first Arkansas Domestic Relations Manual  
33 in 1974 and 1975; received the Golden Gavel Award from the Arkansas Bar  
34 Association; served as president of the Arkansas Judicial Council in 1975 and  
35 1976; was honored by the Pope County Bar Association in 1990 for his twenty-  
36 eight (28) years of continuous service on the bench; and upon his retirement,

1 donated most of his legal research materials to the Pope County Law Library;  
2 and

3  
4 WHEREAS, his memberships in local civic and fraternal organizations  
5 spanned more than fifty (50) years; and he belonged to Shriner's Masonic  
6 Lodge No. 274, American Legion Post 20, and the Rotary Club of Russellville,  
7 Arkansas; and

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9 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley's passions included horticulture, genealogy, and  
10 teaching Sunday School, though his chief recreational interest was fishing,  
11 and he made his own lures that were guaranteed to catch fish; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley is predeceased by his wife of sixty (60) years,  
14 Louise Caudle Mobley, and his four (4) brothers Ralph, Prentis, Samuel, and  
15 Hammons Mobley; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, Judge Mobley is survived by his daughter, Margaret Mobley  
18 Burgess, of Loveland, Colorado; his son, Richard Reece Mobley and daughter-  
19 in-law Nancy R. Mobley, of Westwood, Massachusetts; grandsons Benjamin C.  
20 Dorries and Ryan E. Mobley; granddaughters Sarah and Elizabeth Clabby; and  
21 several nieces and nephews; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Eighty-Seventh General  
24 Assembly wishes to publicly recognize Judge Richard Mobley's contributions to  
25 the State of Arkansas and his local community,

26  
27 NOW THEREFORE,

28 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
29 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

30  
31 THAT the House of Representatives recognizes Judge Richard Mobley's  
32 commitment, hard work, dedication, and service to the State of Arkansas and  
33 his local community, and commends him for his leadership.

34  
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the House of  
36 Representatives hereby express sincere condolences to the family of Judge

1 Richard Mobley, and upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy  
2 shall be provided to the family of Judge Mobley by the Chief Clerk of the  
3 House of Representatives.

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