

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021

SMR 2

4  
5 By: Senator D. Wallace

6  
7 **SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

8 TO REMEMBER BILL PHILLIPS AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS  
9 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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11  
12 **Subtitle**

13 TO REMEMBER BILL PHILLIPS AND TO  
14 RECOGNIZE HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE  
15 OF ARKANSAS.

16  
17 WHEREAS, Mr. William Richard "Bill" Phillips was born on February 5,  
18 1949, to Hazel and Earl Phillips of Harrison, Arkansas, and died on November  
19 27, 2020; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, Bill developed early athletic talent and earned a football  
22 scholarship to Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas, following  
23 graduation from Harrison High School in 1968; was a four-year letterman at  
24 Arkansas State University from 1968 until 1971; led the 1970 football team to  
25 an unblemished 11-0 season and the small college National Championship; was  
26 named twice to the First Team All-Southland Conference in 1969 and 1970; was  
27 named to First Team All-America in 1970 by the Associated Press as the only  
28 junior selected; was selected by coaches to the Southland Conference All-  
29 Decade Team; was selected an Annual All-American Game Team Member in 1972;  
30 was a second round draft pick by the Denver Broncos in 1972; was selected by  
31 fans to the All-Time Arkansas State University Football Team in 1976; and was  
32 selected in 2014 as a member of the Arkansas State University All-Centennial  
33 Team; and

34  
35 WHEREAS, Arkansas State University inducted Bill into the Athletics'  
36 Hall of Honor in 1992; made him a member of the Ring of Honor in 2003, an



1 honor commemorated with his name hanging in the Arkansas State University  
2 football stadium; and named him a Distinguished Alumnus in 2005; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, Bill was also inducted into the Harrison High School Hall of  
5 Fame and twice into the Arkansas Sports of Hall of Fame, in 2015 as an  
6 individual and in 2016 as a member of the 1970 Arkansas State University  
7 football team; and

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9 WHEREAS, while at Arkansas State University, Bill met Peggy Ann  
10 Brinkley of Turrell, Arkansas, whom he married and took with him to Denver  
11 when he played for the Denver Broncos; and

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13 WHEREAS, Bill and Peggy returned home from Denver in 1974, and Bill  
14 went to work for Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield in sales and marketing, a  
15 job that was a natural fit with his larger-than-life personality; after  
16 winning just about every sales and marketing award from Blue Cross Blue  
17 Shield, in 1986 the organization tapped him to lead the newly formed  
18 Government Relations division, where Bill quickly made a smooth transition  
19 from sales to lobbying; and in 1998, he started Phillips Management and  
20 Consulting Service, Inc., a lobbying group he served as president of until  
21 November 2020; and

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23 WHEREAS, Bill was involved in professional and civic organizations,  
24 including memberships on the boards of the Major Sports Association, Family  
25 Service Agency, Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in  
26 Arkansas, and The Little Rock Club; chairmanships of the Board of Trustees of  
27 Arkansas State University, CF Sports Challenge, Kids Voting Arkansas,  
28 Arkansas State University Golf Tournament, and the Arkansas Sports Hall of  
29 Fame; cochairmanship of the Arkansas United States Olympic Committee; and  
30 service as an Arkansas Traveler, often traveling with Bill Clinton, and in  
31 the Bill Clinton for President Campaign as an Ambassador to Connecticut; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, Bill was a devout Christian and is survived by his loving wife  
34 of fifty-two (52) years Peggy, his son Bradley, his grandson Little Bill, his  
35 sister and brother-in-law Kay and Rusty Hayes, and numerous beloved cousins,  
36 nieces, and nephews; and is preceded in death by his parents and his brother

1 Jim Phillips,

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3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
5 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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7 THAT the Senate remember Bill Phillips for his service and dedication  
8 to the State of Arkansas and extend sincere condolences to the family.

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be  
11 provided to the family by the Secretary of the Senate.

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