

1 INTERIM RESOLUTION 2025-002

2
3 REQUESTING THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HONOR THE MEMORY OF
4 SENATOR GARY STUBBLEFIELD FOR HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIS
5 COMMUNITY AND HIS HOME STATE OF ARKANSAS.
6

7 WHEREAS, Senator Gary Don Stubblefield, who resided near Branch,
8 Arkansas, passed away Tuesday, September 2, 2025, in Little Rock at seventy-
9 four (74) years of age; and
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11 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield was born on February 28, 1951, in
12 Charleston, Arkansas, to the late H.T. "Tottie" Stubblefield and Beulah Mae
13 (Mantooth) Stubblefield; and
14

15 WHEREAS, the journey of life for Senator Stubblefield began on Mill
16 Creek Mountain in Franklin County, Arkansas, where he had a humble beginning
17 that set the stage for the rest of his life; and
18

19 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield graduated from the small country County
20 Line School District, but before that he attended a one-room school house in
21 Cecil, Arkansas; and
22

23 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield's family moved from Mill Creek Mountain
24 to the valley farm in Branch that his parents bought, which included one
25 hundred twenty (120) acres of wooded land that they cleared by hand; and
26

27 WHEREAS, when Senator Stubblefield was eleven (11) years old, he milked
28 cows on the family farm before and after school each day, and as the cows
29 increased in number, so did the work load; and
30

31 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield played basketball in junior high and
32 senior high, so he would milk the cows, then ride his bicycle two (2) miles
33 one (1) way from the farm to Highway 22 by the sale barn to catch the bus and
34 ditch his bike at the bus stop, and this is how he got to his games, rain or
35 shine, each day; and
36

1 WHEREAS, after graduating from County Line High School, Senator
2 Stubblefield attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, where he
3 was determined to make the Arkansas Razorback football squad even though he
4 had never played football because he came from a school that did not have a
5 football program; and
6

7 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield made the University of Arkansas at
8 Fayetteville football team and went on to play in the Liberty Bowl and the
9 Cotton Bowl in his positions on special teams and as cornerback; and
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11 WHEREAS, after a football injury, Senator Stubblefield continued to
12 attend college, majoring in animal science, and in 1969, he pledged Alpha
13 Gamma Rho and FarmHouse Fraternity; and
14

15 WHEREAS, during his time at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville,
16 Senator Stubblefield met the love of his life, Kathi Colley, and they married
17 in 1974; and
18

19 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield then took over his parents' dairy farm,
20 milking eighty (80) cows, and raising his children, Amber and Joshua, on the
21 farm became his life; and
22

23 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield served on the County Line School Board,
24 as Justice of the Peace, and on the Arkansas Milk Stabilization Board,
25 appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee; and
26

27 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield was a member of the SFA Farmers
28 Cooperative Board, the National Association of Christian Lawmakers, and the
29 Convention of States; and
30

31 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield spent one (1) term in the House of
32 Representatives for District 67 before being elected to the Senate in 2013,
33 where he served for the rest of his life; and
34

35 WHEREAS, of all the things in his life that he treasured, Senator
36 Stubblefield's love for the Lord was greatest, and he served Him diligently

1 throughout his life, becoming a member of the First Baptist Church in Branch
2 in 1976 and serving as a Sunday school youth boys' teacher for thirty-four
3 (34) years and also as Sunday school superintendent and deacon; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the youth that Senator Stubblefield taught often bring up the
6 memory of how much they loved the warm homemade cookies and sweet drinks he
7 brought every Sunday morning, when he was awake by 2:30 a.m. milking cows and
8 would make it back into the house by 8:30 a.m. with just enough time to bake
9 cookies for "his boys"; and
10

11 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield cared for all people from all walks of
12 life, but his family was his treasure; and
13

14 WHEREAS, Senator Stubblefield is survived by his wife of fifty-one (51)
15 years, Kathi (Colley) Stubblefield, his children, Amber Sullivan and husband
16 Jordan and Joshua Stubblefield and wife Brittany, all of Branch, a sister,
17 Marilyn Sutherland of Hot Springs, a brother, Jimmy Stubblefield and wife
18 Melinda of Cecil, ten (10) grandchildren, Marshall Speer and wife Kaitlynn,
19 Mylee Scott and husband Daymon, Deacon Stubblefield, Denton Stubblefield,
20 Delsey Stubblefield, Delta Stubblefield, Declan Stubblefield, Jhett Sullivan,
21 Delise Stubblefield, and Dexton Stubblefield, and four (4) great-
22 grandchildren, Sage Scott, Revel Scott, J.R. Speer, and Lincoln Speer, and he
23 was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Ronnie Stubblefield; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the body of Senator Stubblefield lay in state on Thursday,
26 September 11, 2025, at the Arkansas State Capitol rotunda in Little Rock to
27 honor his extraordinary life and legacy,
28

29 NOW THEREFORE,

30 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
31 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
32

33 THAT the Legislative Council honor the memory of Senator Gary
34 Stubblefield for his many contributions to his community and his home state
35 of Arkansas.
36

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon the adoption of this resolution, a
 2 copy be provided by the Executive Secretary of the Legislative Council to the
 3 family of Senator Gary Stubblefield.

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 7 Respectfully submitted,

Senator Terry Rice District 5	Senator Justin Boyd District 27	Senator Joshua Bryant District 32
Senator Ronald Caldwell District 10	Senator Alan Clark District 7	Senator Steve Crowell District 3
Senator Breanne Davis District 25	Senator Tyler Dees District 35	Senator Jonathan Dismang District 18
Senator Jim Dotson District 34	Senator Jane English District 13	Senator Scott Flippo District 23
Senator Stephanie Flowers District 8	Senator Ben Gilmore District 1	Senator Kim Hammer District 16
Senator Bart Hester District 33	Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr District 4	Senator Ricky Hill District 11
Senator Missy Irvin District 24	Senator Blake Johnson District 21	Senator Mark Johnson District 17
Senator Bryan King District 28	Senator Greg Leding District 30	Senator Fredrick J. Love District 15

Senator Matt McKee
District 6

Senator Reginald Murdock
District 9

Senator John Payton
District 22

Senator Clint Penzo
District 31

Senator Jim Petty
District 29

Senator Jamie Scott
District 12

Senator Matt Stone
District 2

Senator Dan Sullivan
District 20

Senator Clarke Tucker
District 14

Senator Dave Wallace
District 19

Prepared by: AHF/JMT

