

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN WILBUR D. MILLS FOR HIS FORTY-TWO YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO ARKANSAS AND THE NATION AND TO COMMEND THE ARKANSAS MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND HISTORY ON THEIR CHOICE TO HONOR MR. MILLS AND HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT A TRIBUTE DINNER ON MARCH 4, 1988.

WHEREAS, in 1934, at the age of 25, Wilbur Mills was elected County Judge of White County, becoming not only Arkansas' youngest County Judge, but the most highly educated, with four years at Hendrix College and three years at Harvard Law School; and

WHEREAS, in 1938, Mr. Mills was elected to Congress at the age of 29, and served in Washington for the next 38 years, having opposition in only four of his eighteen re-election campaigns; and

WHEREAS, in 1942, he was assigned to the House Committee on Ways and Means, where all taxation measures for the country must originate; and

WHEREAS, in 1958, he became the youngest person ever elected Chairman of that prestigious committee, and served as Chairman longer than anyone in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, among his major achievements as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, were securing the Medicare/Medicaid program for the elderly, increasing Social Security benefits and extending coverage, and designing revenue sharing for cities and counties; and

WHEREAS, during his 38 years in Congress, Mr. Mills always emphasized the importance in helping the people of Arkansas. Among his many achievements include assisting Arkansas communities with new water, sewer, military, and highway facilities. He worked to have the Little Rock Air Force Base become a reality. He singlehandedly achieved interstate status and funding for Little Rock's East-West Expressway, which was appropriately renamed the Wilbur Mills Freeway. The East Belt Freeway would not exist today without the efforts of Congressman Mills, who worked to obtain ninety percent federal funding for

this crucial artery connecting Little Rock's River Port to major highways; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 1988, the Arkansas Museum of Science and History, which, like Mr. Mills, has a long history of service to the people of Arkansas, will honor Congressman Mills at a tribute dinner at the Excelsior Hotel for his distinguished 42-year public service career.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS,

That this body does hereby acknowledge and laud the well-documented public service career of Congressman Wilbur D. Mills to his state and nation and does hereby commend the Arkansas Museum of Science and History on their choice to honor Mr. Mills at a tribute dinner on March 4, 1988.