

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

HMR 1004

4
5 By: Representative L. Smith
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8 **HOUSE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

9 IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF MR. E.J. BALL AND IN
10 RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
11 STATE OF ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.
12

13 **Subtitle**

14 IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF MR. E.J. BALL
15 AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY
16 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
17 AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.
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20 WHEREAS, Mr. E.J. Ball of Fayetteville, Arkansas, died on Tuesday,
21 January 27, 2004, at the age of eighty-seven (87) years; and
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23 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was born on January 21, 1917, in Monette, Arkansas,
24 to Benjamin Franklin and Vera Lamb Ball; and
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26 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball entered the United States Navy and became a Naval
27 aviator in 1943, serving at the Naval Air Station in Tillamook, Oregon, and
28 at the Naval Station in Great Lakes, Illinois, and retired from the Navy as a
29 lieutenant junior grade; and
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31 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville,
32 where he received a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting in 1949, an L.L.B. with
33 honors in 1950, and an M.B.A. in Business Administration in 1953; was active
34 in many academic honor societies, including Beta Gamma Sigma, Omicron Delta
35 Kappa, Phi Alpha Delta, and the Blue Key honorary men's leadership
36 fraternity; and was editor of the Law Review from 1950-1951; and



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WHEREAS, Mr. Ball served as an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas College of Business Administration and the School of Law for twenty-five (25) years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ball began his private law practice in Fayetteville, Arkansas in 1950, where he practiced with law partner Ken Mourton for thirty-four (34) years, growing the law firm into one of the oldest and most recognized in Northwest Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was the first counsel for the University of Arkansas Men's Athletics Department; was best known for his representation of clients charged with federal tax crimes; was an early specialist on federal criminal tax violations and went years before ever losing a case to the federal government; and helped pioneer the law of variable annuities, like-kind exchanges, estate planning, and charitable foundations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ball's contributions to the law were recognized by his appointment as a Special Justice to the Arkansas Supreme Court, being named one of the Best Lawyers in America by Woodward/White, Inc. of New York, and being chosen as Outstanding Lawyer in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was involved in more than one hundred twenty-five (125) reported appellate cases during his career; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ball served as Chairman of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce; was a longtime director of McIlroy Bank; served on the board of the University of Arkansas Alumni Association; was on the Arkansas Western Gas Company Board of Directors for twenty-one (21) years; created the nation's first commercial variable annuity life insurance company with the late Harold Dulan and Lewis Callison, where Mr. Ball served as corporate director, secretary-treasurer, and general counsel; founded the Razorback Foundation, which honored him with a distinguished service award in 1992; was a founding member of the University of Arkansas National Development Council; founded the Law School Foundation; created the Wylie H. David Professorship and the Ethel Harper Phillips Scholarship Fund; and was founding Chairman of the

1 Chancellor's Society; and

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3 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball and his wife, Gladys, have generously supported the
4 University of Arkansas Law School, including the Robert A. Leflar
5 Professorship and the E.J. Ball Professorship; were major contributors to the
6 J. William Fulbright Peace Fountain; and, in 2002, the Balls were inducted as
7 Towers of Old Main; and

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9 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was the honored recipient at the Arkansas Law Review
10 50th Anniversary in 1997; received the Alumni Citation of Merit; received a
11 gift in his name from the Razorback Foundation of a teaching lab in the
12 university library bearing his name; and, in 2003, the School of Law hosted a
13 reception and dinner to recognize his lifelong leadership and contributions
14 to the University of Arkansas; and

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16 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball was preceded in death by his parents, Benjamin
17 Franklin and Vera Lamb Ball; and

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19 WHEREAS, Mr. Ball is survived by his wife of fifty-eight (58) years,
20 Gladys; son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth Ben and Betsy Ball; daughter and
21 son-in-law, Kathy L. Ball and Barry D. Herzog; daughter and son-in-law, Karen
22 L. Ball and W. Tate Wolf; and three grandchildren, Benjamin Slade Adams,
23 Amanda Britt Adams, and Benjamin Henry Ball; and

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25 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Eighty-fifth General
26 Assembly wishes to publicly recognize Mr. Ball's many contributions to the
27 State of Arkansas and his local community,

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29 NOW THEREFORE,

30 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL
31 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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33 THAT the House of Representatives recognizes E.J. Ball's commitment,
34 hard work, dedication, and years of service to the State of Arkansas and his
35 local community and commends him for his leadership.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the House of
2 Representatives hereby express sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Ball,
3 and upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided
4 to the family of Mr. Ball by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.
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