

State of Arkansas
86th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2007

SCMR 1

By: Senators Steele, Brown, Crumbly, Wilkins
By: Representatives Blount, E. Brown, Chesterfield, Davis, Allen, T. Baker, S. Dobbins, Flowers, Hardy,
W. Lewellen, Rainey

SENATE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF DR. JERRY DONAL JEWELL
AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS TO
THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

Subtitle

IN RESPECTFUL MEMORY OF DR. JERRY DONAL
JEWELL AND IN RECOGNITION OF HIS MANY
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
AND HIS LOCAL COMMUNITY.

WHEREAS, Dr. Jerry Donal Jewell of Little Rock, Arkansas, died on
August 17, 2002, at the age of seventy-one (71); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jewell was born in Chatfield, Arkansas, on September 16,
1930, to Ruth and James M. Jewell; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jewell graduated from Shelby County Training School in
Lucy, Tennessee, in 1949; the former Agricultural, Mechanical, and Normal
College, now the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, with a bachelor of
science degree in chemistry, a school he attended on an athletic scholarship;
and the School of Dentistry of Meharry Medical College in Nashville,
Tennessee, with a doctorate of dental surgery degree; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jewell served as a dentist in the U.S. Army at Fort



1 Leonard Wood, Missouri, and served five (5) years in the Army Reserves; and

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3 WHEREAS, Dr. Jewell was inspired to become a dentist by four (4)
4 uncles, three (3) of whom were physicians and one (1) who was a dentist in
5 the Memphis, Tennessee, area; joined a dental practice in North Little Rock,
6 Arkansas, in 1959; and shortly thereafter opened his own dental office in
7 Little Rock, Arkansas, where he worked until his death; and

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9 WHEREAS, Dr. Jewell was elected as a state senator for District 17 in
10 1972, a position he served in until 1993; was elected President Pro Tempore
11 of the Senate in 1992; and became the first African-American governor of the
12 State of Arkansas because of his service as acting governor whenever the
13 governor and lieutenant governor were out of state during his tenure as
14 President Pro Tempore; and

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16 WHEREAS, Dr. Jewell was president of the Little Rock Branch of the
17 NAACP from 1963 until 1967, of which he was a lifetime member; was president
18 of the Arkansas Conference of Branches – NAACP from 1965 until 1967; served
19 on the Little Rock Civil Service Commission from 1968 until 1972; served on
20 the National Democratic Party Credentials Commission in 1972; and served on
21 the National Democratic Party Charter Commission from 1972 until 1974; and

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23 WHEREAS, Senator Irma Hunter Brown said Dr. Jewell always stressed to
24 fellow African-Americans the need for economic development, stating, "He
25 certainly worked to try to improve the economic level of those who he came in
26 contact with . . . He was the kind of person who was extremely dedicated to
27 human rights, civil rights, and social justice."; and

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29 WHEREAS, the Senate of the Eighty-Sixth General Assembly wishes to
30 publicly recognize Dr. Jewell's contributions to the State of Arkansas and
31 his local community,

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33 NOW THEREFORE,

34 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
35 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

1 THAT the Senate recognizes Dr. Jerry Donal Jewell's commitment, hard
2 work, dedication, and service to the State of Arkansas and his local
3 community and commends him for his leadership.
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the individual members of the Senate hereby
6 express sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Jewell, and upon adoption of
7 this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to the family of Dr.
8 Jewell by the Secretary of the Senate.
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