

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

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HCMR 1002

4
5 By: Representatives L. Smith, Barnett, House, D. Hutchinson, Lindsey, M. Martin, Pyle, Summers
6 By: Senators Madison, Bledsoe, J. Key, B. Pritchard

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9 **HOUSE CONCURRENT MEMORIAL**
10 **RESOLUTION**

11 *CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS, AND*
12 *MOURNING THE PASSING OF, JOHN MILES LEWIS.*

13
14 **Subtitle**

15 *CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS,*
16 *AND MOURNING THE PASSING OF, JOHN MILES*
17 *LEWIS.*

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20 *WHEREAS, John Miles Lewis of Fayetteville, Arkansas, died Friday, June*
21 *1, 2007; and was born June 3, 1939, in Fayetteville, Arkansas, to Herbert and*
22 *Gertrude Miles Lewis; and*

23
24 *WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis was a fifth-generation Fayetteville, Arkansas,*
25 *native who entered Fayetteville High School in 1954 and was a member of the*
26 *first integrated class in the South following the United States Supreme Court*
27 *decision mandating racially integrated public schools; and*

28
29 *WHEREAS, upon graduation from Fayetteville High School, Mr. Lewis*
30 *attended the University of Arkansas and served in the United States Marines*
31 *Corps before beginning his financial career; and*

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33 *WHEREAS, after nine (9) years with an investment banking group in*
34 *Dallas, Texas, Mr. Lewis returned to Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 1969 as vice*
35 *president of First National Bank of Fayetteville; became president and CEO*
36 *just five (5) years later; but Mr. Lewis left First National Bank in 1985 and*



1 led the efforts to form the Bank of Fayetteville, chartered in 1987 as a
2 community-owned bank with three hundred forty-four (344) local shareholders;
3 and

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5 WHEREAS, under Mr. Lewis' chairmanship, the Bank of Fayetteville not
6 only survived its first decade, but flourished as a community-owned and
7 directed bank in times otherwise marked by nationwide bank mergers; and

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9 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis' innovative and unique management style placed his
10 banks on the cutting edge; and

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12 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis was among the first in the nation to install an
13 automatic teller machine, to establish a subsidiary community development
14 corporation, and to establish an in-bank investment subsidiary sanctioned by
15 the Securities and Exchange Commission; and

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17 WHEREAS, Mr. Lewis always believed that the success of a business is
18 interdependent with the success of its community; his collaborative
19 leadership was key to revitalizing Fayetteville's downtown; and he played
20 significant roles in the renovation and construction of most of the
21 structures composing today's vibrant town square, from the First National
22 Bank (now Bank of America) Building to the Old Post Office and its remarkable
23 gardens; and

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25 WHEREAS, as a visionary thinker, Mr. Lewis' counsel was widely sought
26 and valued; he served for twelve (12) years as a Fayetteville School Board of
27 Education member; and he served on the boards of the Beaver Water District,
28 Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences,
29 SWEPCO, Washington Regional Medical Foundation, and the Washington County
30 School Board; and

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32 WHEREAS, at the time of his passing, he was chair of the Genesis
33 Technology Incubator and the Arkansas Technology Development Foundation, and
34 president of the Northwest Arkansas Museum Foundation; and

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36 WHEREAS, John Miles Lewis was survived by his wife, Helen Marie Lewis

1 of Fayetteville, Arkansas; a son, John Miles (Jay) Lewis Jr. of Fayetteville;
2 a daughter, Julianne Lewis of Fayetteville; two (2) brothers, Herbert A.
3 Lewis and David E. Lewis, both of Fayetteville; two (2) grandchildren,
4 Savannah Jay Mills and Sara Caroline Mills, both of Fayetteville; three
5 stepsisters, Sandra Hammond of Palo Alto, California, Deede Mueller of
6 Oakland, California, and Jan McClurg of Redmond, Washington; and three
7 stepchildren, Jay Baughman and his wife, Kim, and their children, Courtney,
8 Carson, and Woods Baughman, Elizabeth Lewis and her children, Morgan and
9 Michael Lewis, and Graham Baughman and his wife, Molly, and their children,
10 Carter and Chloe Baughman,

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12 NOW THEREFORE,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL
14 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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16 THAT the House of Representatives and Senate honor the memory of John
17 Miles Lewis; celebrate his life and significant contributions to public
18 service in his community, our state, our nation, and the world; and remember
19 him, with the deepest admiration and respect for his intellect, his service,
20 his innovative spirit, his cutting-edge insights, his personal warmth,
21 courage, decency, humor, and consideration for others.

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26 /s/ L. Smith
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