

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4
5 By: Senator K. Ingram

SR 18

6
7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 HONORING CHARLIE AND DOW MCVEAN FOR THEIR WORK IN THE
9 DELTA AND WITH BIG RIVER CROSSING.

10
11
12 **Subtitle**

13 HONORING CHARLIE AND DOW MCVEAN FOR THEIR
14 WORK IN THE DELTA AND WITH BIG RIVER
15 CROSSING.

16
17
18 WHEREAS, in 2009, lifelong Memphians Charlie and Dow McVean had a dream
19 to provide a bike and pedestrian crossing over the Mississippi River
20 connecting Tennessee and Arkansas as part of their vision for a multi-state,
21 Mississippi river bike and pedestrian trail; and the purpose of that dream
22 was to create new economic development potential through expanded tourism and
23 visitation in West Memphis, Arkansas, and throughout the Delta region; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the Big River Crossing opened in October 2016 after 6 years of
26 dedicated work and millions of dollars, raised and also contributed by the
27 McVeans; and today the Big River Crossing is the only bike and pedestrian
28 bridge adjacent to an active rail line in the United States and is bringing
29 thousands of new visitors to West Memphis and beyond; and
30

31 WHEREAS, the McVeans did not stop with just a pedestrian bridge
32 connecting downtown Memphis and West Memphis; the bridge and other new
33 development projects are expected to make West Memphis a more desirable place
34 to live, with greater economic potential than ever before; and in keeping
35 with their commitment to Eastern Arkansas, the media firm owned by the
36 McVeans is also promoting visitation within the region; and



1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36

WHEREAS, additional projects include a 73-mile levee top trail system and development of a Delta Regional River Park with extraordinary views of downtown Memphis and more than 7 miles of trails, interpretative sites, environmental education resources, and reforestation; and future plans include improvements along the Mississippi River, the St. Francis National Forest, and connections to the Delta Heritage Trail in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the McVeans are continuing to work closely with land management and transportation agencies in Arkansas to create the greatest benefit possible for our state,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate recognizes and honors the hard work, dedication, and efforts of Charlie and Dow McVean in contributing to the growth and prosperity of the Delta region, the city of West Memphis, and the State of Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be provided to Charlie and Dow McVean by the Secretary of the Senate.