

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019

SMR 1

4  
5 By: Senator K. Ingram  
6

7 **SENATE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

8 TO REMEMBER MR. DON ZIMMERMAN AND TO COMMEMORATE HIS  
9 CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MUNICIPALITIES AND STATE OF  
10 ARKANSAS.

11  
12  
13 **Subtitle**

14 TO REMEMBER MR. DON ZIMMERMAN AND TO  
15 COMMEMORATE HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
16 MUNICIPALITIES AND STATE OF ARKANSAS.  
17

18  
19 WHEREAS, Mr. Don Zimmerman, the longtime Executive Director of the  
20 Arkansas Municipal League, died Sunday, June 24, 2018, in Little Rock,  
21 Arkansas, at the age of 75; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Zimmerman had been working for the Arkansas Municipal  
24 League for 52 years at the time of his death and had served as the executive  
25 director since 1974; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, Joe Smith, President of the Arkansas Municipal League and  
28 mayor of North Little Rock, said, "[Don] wanted every city to be as good as  
29 it could be. Everybody got treated the same. Everybody got the same help  
30 because we all have the same issues"; and  
31

32 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Municipal League's news release on Mr.  
33 Zimmerman's death said in part, "It's in times, such as this, that Don's  
34 incredible work ethic, affection and dedication for the cities and towns of  
35 Arkansas is carried on in his memory. We are heartbroken, as a staff, but  
36 know that Don Zimmerman wants us to carry on for the cities and towns of



1 Arkansas"; and

2  
3 WHEREAS, Jim Dailey, former mayor of Little Rock, said, "Don was  
4 revered, respected and in many ways, probably feared by people in legislative  
5 groups -- particularly at the state or federal levels. He knew what he was  
6 talking about. He did his homework. He was respected nationwide, if not  
7 worldwide"; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, just 2 years after graduating from the University of Arkansas  
10 at Fayetteville in 1964, Mr. Zimmerman joined the Arkansas Municipal League  
11 as a field representative; and before taking the job of executive director,  
12 he also served as managing editor of the Arkansas Municipal League's  
13 magazine, on the Arkansas Municipal League's legislative council, and as  
14 assistant director of the Arkansas Municipal League; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, alongside his duties as executive director, Mr. Zimmerman  
17 served 2 terms on the board of directors of the National League of Cities and  
18 served as administrator of the Arkansas Municipal League's Municipal Legal  
19 Defense Program, the Municipal Health Benefit Fund, the Municipal Vehicle  
20 Program, and the Municipal Property Program; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, Mayor Joe Smith also said, "He was a very dynamic leader who  
23 took the Arkansas Municipal League to be the best municipal league in the  
24 country. I don't think anybody would question that. He was a great leader and  
25 just as good a friend. All 500 cities [in the league] are going to miss him";  
26 and

27  
28 WHEREAS, Mark Stodola, former mayor of Little Rock, called Mr.  
29 Zimmerman a "stalwart advocate" for the cities and towns of the state; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, on the day of Mr. Zimmerman's death, Governor Asa Hutchinson  
32 said, "This is a very sad day with the loss of my friend Don Zimmerman. He  
33 mentored so many mayors through the years, including my dad who considered  
34 Don as one of the best. Don was a great Arkansan and always put his family  
35 first but loved Arkansas very deeply",

36

1 NOW THEREFORE,  
2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
3 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

4

5 THAT the Senate remembers and honors Mr. Don Zimmerman for his longtime  
6 service to the cities and towns of Arkansas and for his contributions to the  
7 betterment of our great state.

8

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be  
10 presented to Ms. Jan Zimmerman by the Secretary of the Senate.

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