

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011

SR 20

4
5 By: Senator Irvin

6
7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
9 VICTOR VAUGHN.

10
11
12 **Subtitle**

13 TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE LIFE
14 ACHIEVEMENTS OF VICTOR VAUGHN.

15
16
17 WHEREAS, at age 5, Victor Vaughn was admitted to St. Bernard's Hospital
18 for nine (9) months where he was diagnosed with polio during the height of
19 the epidemic. He was placed in an "iron lung" to help him breathe. His
20 parents were afraid to admit him to a polio ward, and the hospital was so far
21 away that they went to great strides to visit him often; and

22
23 WHEREAS, an Ash Flat teacher, Ms. Bessie Martin, came to the Vaughn
24 home each Saturday with a week's worth of homework for Victor Vaughn,
25 sacrificing her Saturdays so that Victor could receive an education; and

26
27 WHEREAS, Victor Vaughn began attending public school in the fourth
28 grade. The bus ride was a two-hour event, and his father, Victor Vaughn,
29 Sr., took a job as the bus driver so that Victor could attend school. Victor
30 Vaughn, Sr. would then wait in town for Victor to get out of school and make
31 the drive back to where he would work long after dark taking care of the
32 family's farm work; and

33
34 WHEREAS, Victor Vaughn went on to graduate from high school in 1965 and
35 from Arkansas State University with a degree in business in 1969. He
36 married, had two children, and worked his way up to become the vice president



1 of finance of a manufacturing company with eighteen (18) divisions enabling
2 him to travel throughout the world; and

3
4 WHEREAS, Victor Vaughn, known as "VTV" to his fan club, began playing
5 tennis as it was "prescribed" by his doctor. Ten years later he became the
6 nation's fifth-ranked wheelchair tennis player. Tennis is more than just
7 exercise to Mr. Vaughn; it is his passion. Playing tennis with his younger
8 brother, Steve, and winning tournaments are among his most cherished moments;
9 and

10
11 WHEREAS, the matches Victor Vaughn participates in range from one to
12 two and a half (2 1/2) hours. The tournaments are sanctioned by the United
13 States Tennis Association, and the only difference in rules for wheelchair
14 competitors is that they are allowed two bounces instead of one. He plays
15 both singles and doubles with as many as one hundred and twenty (120)
16 competitors from all over the world; and

17
18 WHEREAS, Victor Vaughn finished first in doubles and fifth in singles
19 in his most recent tennis season, and has brought home trophies from Atlanta,
20 GA, and Hilton Head, SC. He does not limit himself because of his
21 disabilities. He entered a 5K race in Memphis, TN, finishing in eighteen
22 (18) minutes, thirty (30) seconds; and

23
24 WHEREAS, the Vaughn family history dates back to 1852 in Fulton County,
25 Arkansas. Victor Vaughn bought his grandfather's farm approximately seven
26 (7) years ago and hired a contractor to transform the one-thousand acre
27 cattle farm homestead that was in need of major repair back to its original
28 condition. The home, which was originally completed in 1860, is now listed
29 historically as the oldest frame home in Fulton County; and

30
31 WHEREAS, Victor Vaughn served under governors Mike Huckabee and Mike
32 Beebe as a member of the Arkansas Independent Living Council; and

33
34 WHEREAS, Victor Vaughn has taken a strong interest in public service
35 and seeing progress in his home district of Fulton County, Arkansas; and

36

1 WHEREAS, at sixty-four (64) years young, Vincent Vaughn continues to
2 play in wheelchair tennis tournaments and pursue his interests in public
3 service,
4

5 NOW THEREFORE,

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
7 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

8 THAT the Senate recognizes and honors the life achievements of Mr.
9 Victor Vaughn.
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy be
12 mailed by the Secretary of the Senate to Mr. Victor Vaughn.
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36