

1 A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor and loving memory of James
2 "Jimmie" Payton Gipson.

3 WHEREAS, James "Jimmie" Payton Gipson was a native of Edmonson County
4 who was born on April 7, 1941, to the late Lawrence and Ruth Gipson; and

5 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson gave his life to Jesus at the young age of 11, when he
6 was baptized at Chalybeate United Baptist Church in Edmonson County; and

7 WHEREAS, as he grew up, Jimmie Gipson was a proud country boy. He knew the
8 importance of hard work from an early age. He applied this to athletics when he played
9 for the Brownsville Bulldogs basketball team; and

10 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson graduated from Bowling Green Business University in
11 1963 and began working for Houchens Industries after answering a newspaper
12 advertisement for an account manager in 1965; and

13 WHEREAS, on August 18, 1984, Jimmie Gipson married Ann Baskett Gipson.
14 With each of them having 3 children, the union created a household of 6 children ranging
15 from ages 4 to 20; and

16 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson became a successful businessman over his long and
17 distinguished career at Houchens Industries, rising through the company to be promoted
18 to Vice President of Finance in 1986; and

19 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson joined the company's Board of Directors in 1988, and
20 was named CEO in 1993, a position in which he served the company for 26 years. During
21 that time, he was instrumental in acquiring the naming rights to Houchens LT Smith
22 Stadium at Western Kentucky University and the Houchens Industries Center for
23 Business/Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce building; and

24 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson won an extensive list of awards and accolades over the
25 course of his life for his contributions to Houchens Industries and the communities served
26 by the company. These accomplishments included being awarded the keys to the city of
27 Bowling Green, being named Entrepreneur of the Year in 2007 by Ernst and Young, and

1 his induction into the Western Kentucky University Hall of Distinguished Alumni in
2 2008; and

3 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson retired in March 2020, after 55 years of service to
4 Houchens Industries, leaving a lasting legacy of success and security for the 17,000
5 employee-owners of Houchens and their families, for whom he cared so much; and

6 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson was a member of Hillvue Heights Church in Bowling
7 Green and an avid Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers supporter; and

8 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson was devoted to his beloved family, was a proud
9 husband, father to 6, and grandfather to 17. He was a calm, kind, and humble man of few
10 words, but was fierce and funny at times; and

11 WHEREAS, on January 28, 2023, Jimmie Gipson traversed these earthly bounds
12 and is now at peace with the Lord in Heaven; and

13 WHEREAS, Jimmie Gipson is survived by his wife, Ann Gipson; children Allen
14 Gipson, Clark Gipson, Candy Peay, Joe Reeves, Eric Reeves, and Angela Reeves;
15 grandchildren Lauren Brown, Ally Henning, Payton Gipson, Katherine Gipson, Rhett
16 Gipson, Luke Gipson, Rory Gipson, Zayne Peay, Cassidy Peay, Ally Reeves, Lainey
17 Reeves, Maggie Reeves, Haven Reeves, and Damarius Reeves; great-grandchildren
18 Emmy Brown, Baylor Brown, and Chloe Henning; siblings Judy Gipson and Steve
19 Gipson; nieces and nephews Shannon Lowe, Haley Garmon, and Chad Stice; and many
20 dear friends;

21 NOW, THEREFORE,

22 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
23 *Kentucky:*

24 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby expresses its most profound sympathy upon the
25 passing of James "Jimmie" Payton Gipson.

26 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving
27 memory of James "Jimmie" Payton Gipson.