

1           A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor of the life and legacy of Brigadier  
2 General Billy Brandon Morgan.

3           WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan was born on April 11, 1929,  
4 in Puryear, Tennessee, and was raised in Benton, Kentucky, where he graduated from  
5 Benton High School in 1947; and

6           WHEREAS, he pursued higher education at Freed-Hardeman College before  
7 transferring to Murray State University, where he earned a degree in business in 1950;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, in 1951, he enlisted in the United States Air Force and was accepted  
10 into the Aviation Cadet Pilot Training Program, beginning a distinguished military career  
11 marked by dedication, professionalism, and service to the nation, and

12           WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan served as pilot instructor and  
13 pilot in Germany and France during and after the Korean War, where he met and married  
14 his sweetheart, Irene Whiteside, of Texas, and

15           WHEREAS, while stationed in Lubbock, Texas, he served as associate professor of  
16 air science and commandant of cadets at Texas Tech University, where he earned a  
17 Master of Arts degree in Government, and

18           WHEREAS, after returning to Benton in 1960, Brigadier General Billy Brandon  
19 Morgan continued his service in the United States Air Force Reserve and the Tennessee  
20 Air National Guard, flying troop and cargo missions during the Vietnam War; and

21           WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan ultimately achieved the rank  
22 of brigadier general in 1981, and retired in September 1985 after 35 years of honorable  
23 active, reserve, and Air National Guard service, and

24           WHEREAS, throughout his military career he received numerous decorations and  
25 commendations, including the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, National  
26 Defense Service Medal, Army of Occupation Medal (Germany), Commendation Ribbon,  
27 Armed Forces Longevity Service Award, and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; and

1           WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan was a lifelong member of  
2 the Benton Church of Christ, faithfully serving as a deacon for 25 years and as an elder  
3 for 20 years, and

4           WHEREAS, he was a founding supporter of the West Kentucky Children's Home,  
5 now known as New Pathways for Children, and served for more than three decades on  
6 the board of directors of the French African Christian Education in Benin, West Africa;  
7 and

8           WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan was a respected community  
9 leader and businessman in Benton, Kentucky, serving as a principal owner, independent  
10 insurance agent, and realtor with Morgan, Trevathan, and Gunn for 35 years; and

11           WHEREAS, he served his community in numerous leadership roles, including the  
12 Benton City Council, the Benton Lions Club, the Marshall County Chamber of  
13 Commerce, the Kentucky-Barkley Lake Board of Realtors, the Marshall County Hospital  
14 Board of Directors, and as a founder and director of the Marshall County High School  
15 Athletic Foundation. He also served as chairman of the board of directors for Bradshaw  
16 & Weil, Inc., as a director for several banks in western Kentucky, and was named to the  
17 Marshall County Schools Distinguished Hall of Fame; and

18           WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan was a devoted supporter of  
19 higher education, serving as chairman and longtime member of the board of trustees for  
20 Freed-Hardeman University, where he was recognized as an Outstanding Alumnus and  
21 received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree; and

22           WHEREAS, he was inducted into the Freed-Hardeman University Sports Hall of  
23 Fame and the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association Hall of  
24 Fame; and

25           WHEREAS, he was a lifetime member of the Murray State University Alumni  
26 Association, served on the Murray State University Board of Regents, and received the  
27 Distinguished Alumnus Award for Professional Achievement and the Golden Horseshoe

1 Award for volunteer service to the university; and

2 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan was a devoted husband,  
3 father, and family man who cherished time spent with his loved ones and enjoyed sharing  
4 his passion for sports, whether cheering on his favorite teams or encouraging friendly  
5 competition, using those moments to pass on lessons of teamwork, perseverance, and  
6 character that will continue to guide those who knew and loved him, and

7 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan passed away peacefully on  
8 February 28, 2026, at the age of 96, surrounded by his family, and

9 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 60 years, Irene  
10 Whiteside Morgan, and is survived by his daughter, Shannon Morgan (Daniel) West; his  
11 son, Brandon W. (Janet) Morgan; his sisters, Patricia Hodges and Martha Kaye Lincoln;  
12 his brother, Phillip Morgan; four grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, and many nieces  
13 and nephews; and

14 WHEREAS, Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan was known for his wit,  
15 wisdom, generosity, and devotion to family, faith, and community. He leaves behind a  
16 legacy that will continue to inspire the people of Marshall County and the  
17 Commonwealth of the Kentucky;

18 NOW, THEREFORE,

19 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
20 *Kentucky:*

21 ➔Section 1. The Senate honors the life, service, and legacy of Brigadier General  
22 Billy Brandon Morgan and recognizes his extraordinary contributions to the United  
23 States of America, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the community of Benton,  
24 Kentucky.

25 ➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor and loving  
26 memory of Brigadier General Billy Brandon Morgan.

27 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this

- 1 Resolution to Senator Danny Carroll for delivery to the family.