

REFERENCE TITLE: Bob McLendon; death resolution

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fifth Legislature  
Second Regular Session  
2022

# HCR 2043

Introduced by  
Representatives Fernandez B: Bowers

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE BOB MCLENDON

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Arizona Representative Bobbie "Bob" Joe McLendon, a longtime public  
2 servant, educator and community leader, passed away in Yuma, Arizona on  
3 March 9, 2022 at the age of eighty-five.

4 Representative McLendon was born in Rodney, Texas on November 24,  
5 1936. He grew up in Douglas, Arizona and earned both a bachelor and  
6 master's degree from Arizona State University.

7 A longtime teacher at Yuma High School from 1961 to 1998,  
8 Representative McLendon loved teaching American history and government. He  
9 also coached the Yuma Criminals varsity basketball team until the early  
10 1980s, whom Speaker Bowers had the occasional pleasure of playing against,  
11 or at least when Speaker Bowers's team would win.

12 Elected to the Arizona House of Representatives in 1982,  
13 Representative McLendon served nine terms in the House and was chosen by  
14 his caucus to serve as House Democratic Leader. During Representative  
15 McLendon's tenure in the Legislature, he was instrumental in establishing  
16 Northern Arizona University-Yuma, and he was subsequently inducted into  
17 the Northern Arizona University Education Hall of Fame. He also helped to  
18 secure funding to open the Children's Rehabilitation Services Clinic in  
19 Yuma and was a tireless advocate for education funding.

20 As those who served in the Legislature with Representative McLendon  
21 can attest, his commitment to his constituents and his dedication to  
22 the duties of his office were unwavering. Representative McLendon's  
23 leadership style has been sorely missed. He led with honor and integrity,  
24 never letting his passion for political issues adversely affect his  
25 relationships with his colleagues or constituents, introducing his often  
26 good-tempered remarks with, "Mr. Speaker, point of personal privilege, *a*  
27 *sense of Yuma!*"

28 After retirement from the Legislature, Representative McLendon  
29 continued to serve the public by serving on the Yuma County Board of  
30 Supervisors from 2000 to 2004 and on the Arizona Board of Regents from  
31 2008 to 2012 as its first rural representative.

32 While the entire State of Arizona benefited from Representative  
33 McLendon's service, his passing will be felt most by the Yuma community,  
34 to whom he dedicated his life's work. He served on countless civic boards  
35 and organizations to improve the lives of the people of Yuma and was named  
36 Yuma County Citizen of the Year by the *Yuma Sun* in 2004.

37 Despite accomplished careers in education and politics,  
38 Representative McLendon's greatest legacy is his family. He will be  
39 missed by his beloved wife, Sandra, his daughter, Bobbie Jo Coxon, his  
40 brother, Jim McLendon, his sister-in-law, Sharon Alexander, and his three  
41 grandsons, Andrew, T.J. and Robert Coxon, as well as numerous nieces and  
42 nephews.

1 Therefore

2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona,  
3 the Senate concurring:

4 That the Members of the Legislature sincerely regret the passing of  
5 Representative Bob McLendon and extend their deepest sympathies and  
6 condolences to his surviving family members.