

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Senator Gibson**

A Bill

SENATE BILL

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE SQUARE DANCE AS THE AMERICAN FOLK
9 DANCE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS."

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12 WHEREAS, love of state and professions is enhanced by traditions that
13 have become a part of our way of life and the customs of the American people;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, we have distinctive and meaningful symbols of our ideals in our
16 state's flag and in many cultural endeavors, but no official designation of a
17 State Folk Dance; and

18 WHEREAS, the square dance, which was first associated with the American
19 people and recorded in history since 1651, has consistently been the one dance
20 traditionally recognized by the American people as a dignified and enjoyable
21 expression of American folk dancing; and

22 WHEREAS, square dancing is a traditional form of family recreation which
23 symbolizes a basic strength of this country, namely the unity of family; and

24 WHEREAS, square dancing is an activity for young and old, where senior
25 citizens enjoy dance and fellowship and where disabled persons become skilled,
26 happy and "handicapable" dancers; and

27 WHEREAS, square dancing is the American folk dance which is called, cued,
28 or prompted to the dancers, and includes squares, rounds, clogging, contra,
29 line, and heritage dances; and

30 WHEREAS, official recognition of the square dance will enhance the
31 cultural stature of Arkansas both nationally and internationally; and

32 WHEREAS, national and international prestige is the best interest of all
33 Americans; and

34 WHEREAS, it is fitting that the square dance be added to the array of
35 symbols of our state character and pride,

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NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. The dance known as the square dance is hereby designated and adopted as the American Folk Dance of the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

