

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003

HCR 1031

4
5 By: Representative Parks

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8 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 TO URGE THE MEMBERS OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH GENERAL
10 ASSEMBLY TO GIVE THE GOVERNOR EXCLUSIVE CONTROL
11 OVER THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT FUND SO THAT
12 STATEWIDE PROJECTS, INSTEAD OF LOCAL PROJECTS,
13 CAN BE FUNDED.

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15 **Subtitle**

16 TO URGE THE MEMBERS OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO GIVE THE GOVERNOR
18 EXCLUSIVE CONTROL OVER THE GENERAL
19 IMPROVEMENT FUND.

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22 WHEREAS, the state is experiencing budget shortfalls due to an economic
23 decline; and

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25 WHEREAS, the state has limited unspent and undedicated revenue due to
26 the economic decline and is faced with daunting budget shortfalls; and

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28 WHEREAS, the General Improvement Fund is essentially the only available
29 unspent and undedicated revenue to fund statewide projects that will
30 otherwise remain unfunded due to budget shortfalls; and

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32 WHEREAS, the General Assembly historically allowed the Governor to use
33 the General Improvement Fund for statewide projects; and

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35 WHEREAS, in recent sessions, the General Assembly has cut the
36 Governor's share of the General Improvement Fund to fifty percent (50%); and



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WHEREAS, during this session, the Joint Budget Committee has discussed taking away the Governor's authority to spend fifty percent (50%) of the General Improvement Fund;

WHEREAS, in times of budget shortfalls and economic hardships, it is essential for the General Assembly to look beyond partisan politics and local interests to focus on funding statewide projects,

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of Arkansas must stand behind our Governor in this time of budget shortfalls and economic hardships, look beyond partisan politics, look beyond local interests, and focus on funding statewide projects and programs that will otherwise go unfunded by giving back to the Governor the authority to spend one hundred percent (100%) of the moneys in the General Improvement Fund.