

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1657

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By: Representatives Christiansen, F. Allen, Barker, Beaty Jr., Beck, Bentley, M. Berry, Boyd, Breaux, Brooks, Brown, Bryant, Carr, Cavanaugh, Cozart, Dalby, M. Davis, Dotson, Eaves, Ennett, Eubanks, K. Ferguson, V. Flowers, Fortner, D. Garner, Haak, Hawks, Hillman, Holcomb, Hudson, Jean, Jett, L. Johnson, Love, McClure, Milligan, Nicks, Payton, Rye, B. Smith, S. Smith, Springer, Tollett, Tosh, Vaught, Wardlaw, Warren, Watson, D. Whitaker, Wing, Wooten  
By: Senators L. Eads, J. English, Hill, G. Leding, C. Tucker

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## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE OFFICIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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## Subtitle

TO DESIGNATE THE OFFICIAL STEAM LOCOMOTIVE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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

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SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings.  
The General Assembly finds that:

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(1) The St. Louis Southwestern No. 819 was the last steam locomotive produced in the State of Arkansas;

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(2) Engine 819 was built in the locomotive shop operated by the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, known as the Cotton Belt, in Pine Bluff,

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Arkansas and placed in active service on February 8, 1943;  
(3) During its twelve (12) years of service, Engine 819 traveled

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more than eight hundred four thousand (804,000) miles, before being replaced by more modern diesel locomotives;

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(4) On July 19, 1955, Cotton Belt's President H.J. McKenzie presented retired Engine 819 to the city of Pine Bluff to show the company's

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gratitude for the part the city served in the company's steam locomotive



1 operations;

2 (5) Engine 819 was publicly displayed in Oakland Park until 1983  
 3 when the Cotton Belt Rail Historical Society, Inc., restored the Engine 819  
 4 to operation;

5 (6) Engine 819's home is now in the Arkansas Railroad Museum  
 6 which is located at the place of the engine's birth, the former Cotton Belt  
 7 shops in Pine Bluff, Arkansas; and

8 (7) The Cotton Belt was one of the major railroads that advanced  
 9 the state's growth and economy, at one time boasting the nation's fastest  
 10 freight train, the Blue Streak Fast Freight, and Engine 819 is part of that  
 11 tradition of excellence.

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 13 SECTION 2. Title 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an  
 14 additional section to read as follows:

15 1-4-140. State steam locomotive.

16 The St. Louis Southwestern No. 819, class L1 4-8-4 "Northern" type  
 17 steam locomotive is designated as the official steam locomotive of the State  
 18 of Arkansas.

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