

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017

HCR 1005

4
5 By: Representatives Wardlaw, Vaught, L. Fite
6 By: Senators Irvin, T. Garner

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8 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 TO SUPPORT EFFORTS OF THE HEALTHY ACTIVE ARKANSAS
10 INITIATIVE IN COMBATING OBESITY WITH A SYSTEMATIC,
11 STATEWIDE STRATEGY.

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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO SUPPORT EFFORTS OF THE HEALTHY ACTIVE
16 ARKANSAS INITIATIVE IN COMBATING OBESITY
17 WITH A SYSTEMATIC, STATEWIDE STRATEGY.

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20 WHEREAS, according to a report entitled "Assessment of Childhood and
21 Adolescent Obesity in Arkansas: Year 13" issued by Arkansas Center for Health
22 Improvement in 2016, more than one-third (1/3) of children, adolescents, and
23 adults in the United States of America are overweight or obese; and

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25 WHEREAS, overweight and obese individuals are more likely to be at risk
26 for cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes, and joint
27 problems; and

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29 WHEREAS, as reported by Trust for America's Health, Arkansas has
30 improved its ranking for obesity from first in 2015 to sixth in 2016 among
31 all the states; and

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33 WHEREAS, as reported by Trust for America's Health, Arkansas's obesity
34 rate has dropped from thirty-five and nine-tenths percent (35.9%) to thirty-
35 four and five-tenths percent (34.5%); and

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1 WHEREAS, reversing the obesity epidemic will require investing in
2 prevention, making healthy choices an easier part of people's daily lives,
3 and targeting efforts in areas with the greatest challenges; and
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5 WHEREAS, according to a 2015 report from Healthy Active Arkansas,
6 reducing the average body mass index of Arkansans by five percent (5%) could
7 lead to healthcare savings of more than two billion dollars (\$2,000,000,000)
8 in ten (10) years and six billion dollars (\$6,000,000,000) in twenty (20)
9 years, while also preventing thousands of cases of strokes, coronary heart
10 disease, Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and cancer; and
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12 WHEREAS, Healthy Active Arkansas, also known as HAA, is a comprehensive
13 plan to address these areas in a systematic manner that was initiated by
14 leaders in the public and private sectors; and
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16 WHEREAS, Healthy Active Arkansas was officially endorsed and launched
17 in 2015 by Governor Asa Hutchinson; and
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19 WHEREAS, Healthy Active Arkansas offers a framework for encouraging and
20 enabling healthier lifestyles in Arkansas with a "health in all policies"
21 approach that encompasses the following nine (9) priority areas:

- 22 (1) Physical and built environment;
- 23 (2) Nutritional standards in government, institutions, and the
24 private sector;
- 25 (3) Nutritional standards in schools, early child care
26 facilities, and colleges;
- 27 (4) Physical education and activity in schools, early child care
28 facilities, and colleges;
- 29 (5) Healthy worksites;
- 30 (6) Access to healthy foods;
- 31 (7) Sugar-sweetened beverage reduction;
- 32 (8) Breastfeeding; and
- 33 (9) Marketing program; and
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35 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas benefits both in quality of life and
36 economically by preventing childhood obesity and adulthood obesity; and

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WHEREAS, the General Assembly acknowledges the effort by Healthy Active Arkansas to promote healthy living and reduce the obesity epidemic,

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

THAT the House of Representatives of the Ninety-First General Assembly, the Senate concurring:

- (1) Recognize the importance of preventing childhood obesity and adulthood obesity;
- (2) Support Healthy Active Arkansas and its nine (9) priority areas to address the obesity epidemic in the State of Arkansas; and
- (3) Support a "health in all policies" approach with the specific goals and activities aimed at promoting healthy eating and physical activity and increasing awareness of Arkansas obesity rates among the citizens of Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution an appropriate copy be provided by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives to the office of the Governor, the members of the House of Representatives, the members of the Senate, and other state government officials as appropriate.