

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019

SR 8

4
5 By: Senator Elliott

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE AND TO SUPPORT THE ARKANSAS POOR
9 PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO RECOGNIZE AND TO SUPPORT THE ARKANSAS
14 POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN.

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17 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral
18 Revival, also referred to as the "Arkansas Poor People's Campaign", was
19 officially launched on December 4, 2017, and organized by Rev. Dr. William
20 Barber II, and Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, as a part of a national movement to
21 reignite the 1968 Poor People's Campaign; and

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23 WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the supporters of the Civil
24 Rights Movement, and persons living in poverty in Marks, Mississippi, worked
25 together to organize the 1968 Poor People's Campaign in an effort to end
26 systems of poverty in our country that have been driven by racism, economic
27 exploitation, and militarism; and

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29 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Poor People's Campaign affirms Rev. Dr. Martin
30 Luther King Jr. in his declaration that "[t]here is no deficit in human
31 resources; the deficit is in human will"; acknowledges there is a moral
32 urgency to ensure that all persons living in this state are treated with
33 equity and fairness; affirms that systems of poverty and racism create
34 inequities and injustices that are manufactured and can be undone; affirms
35 that our state must stop attacking persons who are already impacted by
36 systems of poverty and racism; and affirms that there is a moral imperative



1 to ensure that the air, land, water, and living animals of this state are
2 provided the resources and attention needed to ensure that all are able to
3 freely enjoy a healthy place to live, breathe, grow, and thrive; and
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5 WHEREAS, in the words of Rev. Dr. William Barber II, “[w]ith the
6 realities of systemic racism, systemic poverty, ecological devastation, the
7 war economy, and often the false moral narrative of Christian nationalism, we
8 are in a moment in time [in] which we need a deeply moral, deeply
9 Constitutional, anti-poverty, anti-racist, pro-labor, transformative fusion
10 coalition, where people of all different races, colors, and creeds come
11 together and work together to engage in moral direct action, massive voter
12 mobilization, and power building from the bottom up, state by state and even
13 in the U.S. Capitol. We need this to change the narrative and to insist that
14 we will no longer engage in attention violence against the poor and the other
15 interlocking injustices that connect to poverty”; and
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17 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Campaign endeavors with a moral urgency to
18 embrace persons of every faith, identity, geography, culture, ethnicity,
19 economic status, ability, disability, age, and defining characteristic known,
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21 NOW THEREFORE,
22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
23 STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 THAT the Senate recognizes and supports the Arkansas Poor People’s
26 Campaign.
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be
29 transmitted to the Arkansas Poor People’s Campaign by the Secretary of the
30 Senate.
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