

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

SR 10

4
5 By: Senator Irvin

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE MOUNT ST. MARY ACADEMY FOR 170 YEARS OF
9 SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO RECOGNIZE MOUNT ST. MARY ACADEMY FOR
14 170 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF
15 ARKANSAS.

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18 WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary Academy, located in Little Rock, Arkansas, and
19 founded in 1851, is the oldest high school in the state; and

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21 WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary's, as it is commonly known, is a private, Roman
22 Catholic all-girls school that serves grades nine through twelve (9-12); and

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24 WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary's was established one hundred seventy (170)
25 years ago by the Sisters of Mercy, a congregation founded and established in
26 Dublin, Ireland, by Catherine McAuley to provide solace to sick and needy
27 families, train young girls for employment, and to instruct poor children;
28 and

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30 WHEREAS, the establishment of Mount St. Mary's in 1851 was part of an
31 effort by Arkansas's first Roman Catholic Bishop, Andrew Byrne, to support
32 and serve as a beacon for Catholic settlement in frontier Arkansas; and
33 Bishop Byrne traveled to Dublin and persuaded the Sisters of Mercy to send
34 four (4) sisters and five (5) postulants to the newly formed Diocese of
35 Little Rock, whereupon the Sisters formed the nucleus of the small school
36 that would become Mount St. Mary's; and



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2 WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary's continues to preserve its Catholic faith and
3 Mercy Values such as wisdom, compassion, and integrity, the cultivation of
4 which through a comprehensive curriculum helps young women to navigate life,
5 and continues to be supported by the Sisters of Mercy along with the Mercy
6 Education System of the Americas; and

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8 WHEREAS, under the current leadership of President Mary Patricia
9 "Pattie" Davis, Mount St. Mary's celebrates this anniversary of almost two
10 (2) centuries of service and fortitude; and

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12 WHEREAS, President Davis notes, "Our educational environment is focused
13 on excellence in both faith and academic formation. It instills young ladies
14 with confidence in their own voice as well as an equally strong desire to
15 give back to their community."; and

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17 WHEREAS, equipped with knowledge, the graduates of Mount St. Mary's do
18 indeed leave with confidence, courage, motivation, and drive, and are fierce
19 pioneers who are passionate about making a difference in their communities
20 and the world,

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22 NOW THEREFORE,
23 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
24 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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26 THAT the Senate recognize and celebrate the one-hundred-seventy-year
27 history of Mount St. Mary Academy and the transformative power of faith and
28 knowledge.

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be
31 transmitted to President Pattie Davis by the Secretary of the Senate.