

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Fiscal Session, 2024

SR 9

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5 By: Senators G. Leding, B. Johnson

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF  
9 STATE LEGISLATURES (NCSL) FOR ITS LEADERSHIP AND  
10 COMMITMENT TO THE LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTION ON ITS  
11 FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY IN 2025.

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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO RECOGNIZE AND COMMEND THE NATIONAL  
16 CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES (NCSL)  
17 FOR ITS LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO THE  
18 LEGISLATIVE INSTITUTION ON ITS FIFTIETH  
19 ANNIVERSARY IN 2025.

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22 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) was  
23 founded in 1975 and has evolved during the past half-century to become the  
24 premier organization solely dedicated to serving state and territorial  
25 legislators and legislative staff; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) was  
28 created from the merger of three (3) organizations that:  
29 (1) Served or represented state legislatures; and  
30 (2) Believed that legislative service is one (1) of democracy's  
31 worthiest pursuits; and

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33 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) is a  
34 bipartisan organization with three (3) objectives to:

35 (1) Advance the effectiveness, independence, and integrity of  
36 state legislatures;



- 1 (2) Foster interstate communication and cooperation; and
- 2 (3) Ensure states a strong, cohesive voice in the federal
- 3 system; and

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5 WHEREAS, state legislatures are:

- 6 (1) America’s laboratories of democracy;
- 7 (2) The bodies to tackle emerging challenges; and
- 8 (3) Where people from different backgrounds, representing
- 9 different communities, can come together and find common ground; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL):

- 12 (1) Has facilitated the exchange of ideas, provided critical
- 13 research and information, and encouraged a rigorous review of complex issues
- 14 confronting our communities, states, and nation; and
- 15 (2) Strives to strengthen the bonds between America’s state
- 16 legislatures and the international community; and

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18 WHEREAS, the Senate has played an active role in the National  
19 Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) and several Arkansas State Senators  
20 have served on various National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)  
21 committees and task forces throughout the years; and

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23 WHEREAS, Ann Cornwell, Director and Secretary of the Senate, has served  
24 on the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Executive Committee  
25 and is a past president of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and  
26 Secretaries, one (1) of the staff associations within the National Conference  
27 of State Legislatures (NCSL); and

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29 WHEREAS, in 2023, Sabrina NeKay Evelyn Lewellen, Deputy Director and  
30 Assistant Secretary of the Senate, became the first African-American woman  
31 and the first Arkansan to be elected to serve as the National Conference of  
32 State Legislatures (NCSL) Staff Chair in the history of the National  
33 Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL),

1 NOW THEREFORE,

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
3 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

4 THAT the Senate recognize and commend the National Conference of State  
5 Legislatures (NCSL) for its leadership and commitment to the legislative  
6 institution on its fiftieth anniversary in 2025.

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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be  
9 provided to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL).

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