

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

HCR 1004

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5 By: Representatives L. Smith, Blount, J. Roebuck, Stewart, Pickett, J. Johnson, Saunders, Cheatham,
6 Walters, Rainey, Burris, Wagner, Abernathy, Cook, Breedlove, Chesterfield, George
7 By: Senator Madison

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10 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

11 ENCOURAGING STUDENTS AND FACULTY IN THE STATE'S
12 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROMOTE
13 INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AS A PART OF CURRICULAR
14 AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR LIFE TO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS
15 AND FUTURE LEADERS ARE PREPARED TO MEET THE
16 CHALLENGES OF A GLOBAL SOCIETY.

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18 **Subtitle**

19 ENCOURAGING STUDENTS AND FACULTY IN THE
20 STATE'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO
21 PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION TO
22 ENSURE THAT STUDENTS AND FUTURE LEADERS
23 ARE PREPARED TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF A
24 GLOBAL SOCIETY.

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27 WHEREAS, international education is a critical component of higher
28 education in Arkansas and contributes to the economy of the state and to a
29 diverse college environment, enhancing both academic and extra-curricular
30 programs; and

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32 WHEREAS, international education is critical to promoting a broadened
33 worldview and therefore preparing Arkansans for life and work in the global
34 economy and creating a diverse academic environment by exchanging scholars
35 and students between countries and building the foundation for future
36 business success; and



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2 WHEREAS, higher education should emphasize international education,
3 including foreign language instruction and study abroad in order to ensure
4 graduates have the cross-cultural skills necessary to function effectively in
5 the global workforce; and

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7 WHEREAS, the General Assembly recognizes the social importance of
8 cultural awareness, the need to promote study-abroad programs that serve
9 Arkansas students, and the economic significance of international students
10 who come to Arkansas for the educational opportunities provided by the state;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, the economic gain of international students and their
14 families for the State of Arkansas was estimated at over forty-eight million
15 dollars (\$48,000,000) in 2004-2005 and a strategy at the state and national
16 level is needed to ensure America's status as a magnet for international
17 students and scholars; and

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19 WHEREAS, the economy of Arkansas is inextricably tied to the rest of
20 the world and state economic development depends upon a deliberate strategic
21 development plan that includes recognition of the role of international
22 education in all its facets; and

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24 WHEREAS, heightened cultural awareness is critical to national
25 interests and is a critical component of foreign policy, and Arkansas'
26 colleges and universities play a key role in developing foreign language and
27 foreign-area expertise by promoting language study, study abroad, and faculty
28 exchange programs; and

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30 WHEREAS, the United States' national security and economic interests
31 and competitiveness depend significantly on the country's ability to provide
32 future leaders with the best education possible,

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34 NOW THEREFORE,

35 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL
36 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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THAT international education is an essential component of the future of the State of Arkansas and that the House of Representatives and the Senate support and encourage students and faculty to promote international education as a part of curricular and extra-curricular life at the state's colleges and universities to ensure that students and future leaders are prepared to meet the challenges of a global society.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT an appropriate copy of this resolution shall be provided to the presidents of all Arkansas institutions of higher education by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.