

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015

HMR 1002

4  
5 By: Representative J. Mayberry

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7 **HOUSE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

8 REMEMBERING ANDREA THORN AND PROCLAIMING MARCH 19 AS  
9 ARKANSAS ANGELS DAY.

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11  
12 **Subtitle**

13 REMEMBERING ANDREA THORN AND PROCLAIMING  
14 MARCH 19 AS ARKANSAS ANGELS DAY.

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17 WHEREAS, Andrea Thorn, died on December 22, 2013, at the age of 15; and

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19 WHEREAS, when Andrea was 11 years old and shopping with her mother for  
20 pageant dresses for her twin sister and her sister, she asked her mother if  
21 she could be in a pageant; and

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23 WHEREAS, because Andrea was a young girl with cerebral palsy, her  
24 mother, BJ Thorn, was concerned about the emotional implications of entering  
25 her daughter in a beauty pageant; and

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27 WHEREAS, Andrea was a determined young girl who persisted in her  
28 requests for a pageant; her mother, BJ, began to research and found that  
29 there was no local or regional pageant for contestants with special needs;  
30 and BJ created the Arkansas Angels Pageant for anyone with special needs,  
31 along with the help of Andrea's father and sisters, Johnathan, Bailee Jo, and  
32 Lauren Grace Thorn; and

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34 WHEREAS, the first pageant was held on March 19, 2011, and over 100  
35 children were crowned Arkansas Angels that day; and

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1           WHEREAS, Andrea's health began to decline 2 weeks before the pageant  
2 and though she was unable to participate in the first pageant, the show went  
3 on as planned; and  
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5           WHEREAS, though Andrea is no longer living, her legacy lives on through  
6 the Arkansas Angels Pageant, with over 1,000 children and adults with special  
7 needs crowned to date; and  
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9           WHEREAS, the pageant has grown quickly in popularity and now there are  
10 Angels Pageants held all over the United States to give children and adults  
11 the opportunity to shine; and  
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13           WHEREAS, Andrea and her family have inspired so many people around the  
14 state, the country, and the world,  
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16 NOW THEREFORE,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE NINETIETH GENERAL  
18 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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20           THAT the House of Representatives remembers Andrea Thorn and honors her  
21 resilient and strong spirit and her legacy in inspiring the Arkansas Angels  
22 Pageant.  
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT March 19 is proclaimed Arkansas Angels Day.  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be  
27 presented to the family of Ms. Thorn by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
28 Representatives.  
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