

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: S3/8/17

SCR 7

5 By: Senators B. King, *L. Chesterfield, Elliott, Files, Flippo, S. Flowers, Rice, G. Stubblefield*
6 By: Representative G. McGill
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8 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

9 RECOGNIZING BASS REEVES AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAW
10 ENFORCEMENT.
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13 **Subtitle**

14 RECOGNIZING BASS REEVES AND HIS
15 CONTRIBUTIONS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.
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18 WHEREAS, Mr. Bass Reeves was born a slave in Crawford County, Arkansas,
19 in 1838, but went on to become one of the first black lawmen west of the
20 Mississippi River; and
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22 WHEREAS, Mr. Reeves escaped his master, William Reeves, and took refuge
23 in Indian Territory, now modern-day Oklahoma, where he developed his firearm
24 and tracking skills amongst the Creek and Seminole Indians; he is believed to
25 have fought with the Union Indians who fought in Indian Territory during the
26 Civil War; and after the Emancipation Proclamation, he was no longer a
27 fugitive and was able to purchase property in Van Buren County, became a
28 farmer, and fathered 10 children with his wife, Nellie Jennie Reeves; and
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30 WHEREAS, Federal Judge Isaac Parker made Mr. Reeves a Deputy United
31 States Marshal because of his knowledge of the area, his ability to speak
32 several languages, and his marksmanship; as one of the most respected lawmen
33 working in Indian Territory, he achieved legendary status for the number of
34 criminals he captured and often under the most trying of circumstances; and
35 during his tenure as a marshal, Mr. Reeves arrested over 3,000 people; and
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