

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

HR 1018

4
5 By: Representatives Bryant, Lundstrum

6
7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO URGE THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE POLITICAL
9 SUBDIVISIONS OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, PUBLICLY
10 FUNDED AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND THEIR EMPLOYEES
11 TO PROTECT THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN BY KEEPING THIS
12 PROMISE TO ARKANSAS'S CHILDREN.

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15 **Subtitle**

16 TO PROTECT THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN BY
17 KEEPING THIS PROMISE TO ARKANSAS'S
18 CHILDREN.

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21 WHEREAS, children have become increasingly targeted at younger ages for
22 adults' sexual messages, images, and themes; and

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24 WHEREAS, cultural forces, including social media and entertainment, and
25 government-sponsored initiatives at the federal, state, and local levels
26 expose children to explicit, sexual content; and

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28 WHEREAS, international and domestic activities infuse public school
29 curricula with graphic information about sex and abortion, and with political
30 ideologies or policies concerning sexual orientation and gender identity; and

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32 WHEREAS, federal legislation could override efforts of concerned
33 parents and community members at the local level; and

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35 WHEREAS, federal legislation may penalize Americans, including parents,
36 who disagree with these ideologies and policies; and



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2 WHEREAS, children are constantly learning and are particularly
3 influenced by the trusted adults in their lives; and
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5 WHEREAS, children's minds are treasures to nurture and help grow; and
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7 WHEREAS, what children learn can determine their success or failure,
8 their ability to properly assess risk, and their vulnerability to
9 exploitation; and
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11 WHEREAS, children's bodies should be honored, protected, and given the
12 chance to develop naturally; and
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14 WHEREAS, children's privacy and physical safety should not be
15 sacrificed for the sake of political ideology or policy; and
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17 WHEREAS, adults responsible for children are charged with protecting
18 and caring for their bodies; and
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20 WHEREAS, the safest place for a child is with his or her loving and
21 involved parents; and
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23 WHEREAS, political or ideological efforts to drive wedges between
24 children and parents are not healthy; and
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26 WHEREAS, every child deserves protection from use in or exposure to
27 pornography and graphic sexual content or activities, including in media and
28 on the internet; and
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30 WHEREAS, every child deserves an education suited for his or her
31 specific needs and development as guided by his or her parents, including one
32 free of graphic sexual curricula or content, the promotion of abortion, and
33 politicized ideas about sexual orientation and gender identity; and
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35 WHEREAS, to protect this right, all public school sexual education
36 programs should be opt-in, and voluntarily chosen by parents; and

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2 WHEREAS, a general opt-out should be provided for other sensitive
3 topics families do not believe appropriate for their children; and
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5 WHEREAS, parents should have the right to review all curricula, reading
6 material, teacher's guides, and computer programs or applications; and
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8 WHEREAS, every child deserves the right to free speech, to either speak
9 or not speak, and to affirm or not affirm messages or ideas that violate his
10 or her beliefs or conscience; and
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12 WHEREAS, every child deserves safety and privacy in sex-specific
13 spaces, including locker rooms, showers, and restrooms at schools and other
14 publicly funded facilities; and
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16 WHEREAS, every child deserves the opportunity to participate in fair
17 and safe athletic competitions, and female athletes should not be forced to
18 compete against biological males in sports competitions intended for
19 biological females; and
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21 WHEREAS, every child deserves the opportunity to be affirmed in his or
22 her genetically determined sex, and to receive support throughout puberty and
23 other natural adolescent changes that shape physical maturity and
24 reproductive capacity; and
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26 WHEREAS, gender reassignment medical treatments, including puberty
27 blockers, cross-sex hormones, and sterilizing surgeries, are neither natural
28 nor healthy, and should not be permitted for minors; and
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30 WHEREAS, each child deserves to have his or her parents informed of and
31 involved in important life decisions; and
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33 WHEREAS, authority figures, including teachers, counselors, or medical
34 professionals, should not withhold information about a child's sexual
35 activity, development, or identity from parents, nor take any action
36 undermining the parents' role in guiding the child in these areas, nor should

1 authority figures encourage or coerce a child to withhold information about
2 important life decisions from the parent; and

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4 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas should to the fullest extent possible
5 under the law resist every attempt or mandate by the federal government to
6 force anyone in Arkansas to violate the principles set forth in this
7 resolution,

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9 NOW THEREFORE,

10 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
11 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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13 THAT the House of Representatives urge the State of Arkansas, all state
14 agencies, the political subdivisions of the State of Arkansas, publicly
15 funded agencies, public schools and open enrollment charter schools,
16 organizations, and their employees, to protect the welfare of every child in
17 Arkansas as guided by this resolution.

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the House of Representatives adopt this
20 resolution as a promise to Arkansas's children to protect the welfare of
21 every child and directs that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
22 administrative head of each state agency, including the secretary of each
23 cabinet-level department, to be shared with all employees under his or her
24 leadership.