

1 INTERIM RESOLUTION 2015-003

2
3 SUPPORTING THE REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY THE GOVERNOR OF ARKANSAS TO
4 THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO DECLARE A MAJOR DISASTER
5 FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO
6 DECLARE A SECRETARIAL DISASTER DESIGNATION FOR CERTAIN ARKANSAS
7 COUNTIES AFFECTED BY RECENT SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS, FLOODING,
8 AND TORNADOES.
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10 WHEREAS, the joint meeting of the Senate Committee on Insurance and
11 Commerce; the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce; the Senate Committee
12 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development; and the House Committee
13 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development on June 24, 2015,
14 considered levee integrity in the State of Arkansas and the devastation to
15 the state due to recent severe weather conditions and flooding; and
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17 WHEREAS, Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson has submitted a request to
18 the President of the United States to declare that a major disaster or
19 emergency exists in the State of Arkansas; and
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21 WHEREAS, a Presidential disaster declaration will activate various
22 federal relief programs to provide individual and public assistance needed
23 during recovery efforts in the State of Arkansas; and
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25 WHEREAS, Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson has submitted a request to
26 the United States Department of Agriculture for a United States Department of
27 Agriculture Secretarial disaster designation for the following Arkansas
28 counties detrimentally affected by recent severe weather conditions and
29 flooding: Boone, Carroll, Conway, Craighead, Crawford, Cross, Faulkner,
30 Franklin, Fulton, Garland, Greene, Hot Spring, Howard, Independence, Izard,
31 Jackson, Jefferson, Johnson, Lawrence, Little River, Logan, Madison, Marion,
32 Miller, Monroe, Perry, Phillips, Pike, Poinsett, Pope, Prairie, Scott,
33 Sebastian, Sharp, White, Woodruff, and Yell; and
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35 WHEREAS, additional Arkansas counties including Columbia, Hempstead,
36 Lafayette, and Nevada, may be included in the United States Department of

1 Agriculture Secretarial disaster designation to assist citizens of this state
2 in their recovery efforts; and
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4 WHEREAS, a United States Department of Agriculture Secretarial disaster
5 designation will enable the Farm Service Agency to offer emergency loans to
6 eligible farmers whose lives and livelihoods have been detrimentally affected
7 by recent severe weather conditions and flooding; and
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9 WHEREAS, it is important that the state take all available action to
10 encourage and support those Arkansas counties affected by recent severe
11 weather conditions and flooding; and
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13 WHEREAS, the President of the United States should declare that a major
14 disaster or emergency exists in the State of Arkansas due to the devastation
15 caused by recent severe weather conditions and flooding; and
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17 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture should declare a
18 United States Department of Agriculture Secretarial disaster designation for
19 certain Arkansas counties that have been detrimentally affected by severe
20 weather conditions and flooding in the State of Arkansas,
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22 NOW THEREFORE,

23 BE IT JOINTLY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND COMMERCE; THE
24 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND COMMERCE; THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
25 AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
26 AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL
27 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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29 THAT the Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce; the House
30 Committee on Insurance and Commerce; the Senate Committee on Agriculture,
31 Forestry, and Economic Development; and the House Committee on Agriculture,
32 Forestry, and Economic Development support Governor Asa Hutchinson's request
33 for a Presidential disaster declaration for the State of Arkansas.
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Senate Committee on Insurance and
36 Commerce; the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce; the Senate Committee

1 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development; and the House Committee
2 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development urge the President of the
3 United States to declare a major disaster or emergency exists in the State of
4 Arkansas and provide a Presidential disaster declaration for the State of
5 Arkansas.

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Senate Committee on Insurance and
8 Commerce; the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce; the Senate Committee
9 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development; and the House Committee
10 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development support Governor Asa
11 Hutchinson's request for a United States Department of Agriculture
12 Secretarial disaster designation for certain Arkansas counties affected by
13 severe weather conditions and flooding.

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Senate Committee on Insurance and
16 Commerce; the House Committee on Insurance and Commerce; the Senate Committee
17 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development; and the House Committee
18 on Agriculture, Forestry, and Economic Development urge the United States
19 Department of Agriculture to declare a United States Department of
20 Agriculture Secretarial disaster designation for certain Arkansas counties
21 affected by severe weather conditions and flooding.

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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, the staff
24 of the Bureau of Legislative Research transmit a copy to the President of the
25 United States, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, and the Governor
26 of the State of Arkansas.

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28 Respectfully submitted,

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32 Senator Jason Rapert, Chair, Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce
33 District 35

1 Senator Ronald Caldwell, Chair, Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry,
2 and Economic Development

3 District 23

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7 Representative Charlie Collins, Chair, House Committee on Insurance and
8 Commerce

9 District 84

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13 Representative Dan M. Douglas, Chair, House Committee on Agriculture,
14 Forestry, and Economic Development

15 District 91

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19 Representative David Hillman, Vice Chair, House Committee on Agriculture,
20 Forestry, and Economic Development

21 District 13

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25 Senator Bruce Maloch

26 District 12

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29 By: ANS/ANS

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