

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN SPECIAL SESSION, THAT THE PEOPLE OF ARKANSAS SHOULD SUPPORT ARKANSAS' PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE THE PURCHASE OF PRODUCTS MADE IN ARKANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES AND SERVICES PROVIDED IN ARKANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, INSTEAD OF PRODUCTS MADE OR SERVICES PERFORMED OUTSIDE OF ARKANSAS AND THE UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS, working men and women in Arkansas and the United States are striving to produce excellent products and provide excellent services; and

WHEREAS, many products made in Arkansas and the United States are of higher quality and cost less than the equivalent product produced outside of the United States; and

WHEREAS, many consumers in Arkansas and the United States do not know the country of origin of most of the products they buy or the services they receive; and

WHEREAS, the United States is suffering from a high trade deficit; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, General Assembly and the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission have implemented the "Good Work, Arkansas" program which has resulted some some Arkansas' business increasing sales of Arkansas products over 1000 percent; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, General Assembly and the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission have implemented the "Taste of Arkansas" program which promotes the sale of Arkansas-made food products in regional markets by sponsoring trade shows featuring Arkansas food companies; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, General Assembly and the Arkansas Industrial

Development Commission have implemented the Matchmaker Program which helps large manufacturers buy more supplies and services from small businesses within the State; and

WHEREAS, WALMART Stores, Inc., with support and encouragement from Governor Clinton, implemented a Buy America program in Arkansas and recently expanded the program to twenty-five (25) other states resulting in foreign production and jobs moving back to Arkansas and the United States; and

WHEREAS, efforts to encourage the purchase of products made in Arkansas and the United States and services provided in Arkansas and the United States should be continued and expanded to help create jobs in Arkansas and the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ARKANSAS SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

THAT (1) it is the sense of the General Assembly that the people of Arkansas should purchase products made in Arkansas and the United States and services provided in Arkansas and the United States, whenever possible, instead of products made or services performed outside of Arkansas and the United States;

(2) the Governor of Arkansas, Arkansas Industrial Development Commission, and local elected officers are requested to continue and expand their efforts to promote this policy with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

(3) the leaders of civic, consumer and community based organizations are requested to use the medium of mass communications:

(A) to assist in promoting the awareness of Arkansas consumers of the importance of selecting goods produced or manufactured and services provided in Arkansas and the United States; and

(B) to assist such consumers in identifying such Arkansas and United States goods and services and the merchants from whom they may be acquired:
and

(4) producers and manufacturers of goods in Arkansas and the United States are requested and encouraged to label and advertise the national and

state origin of such goods.