

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

HCR 1015

4
5 By: Representative J. Jeffress
6 By: Senator Scott

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9 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

10 "TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND HONOR THE CITY OF CROSSETT AS IT
11 CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL. "

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13 **Subtitle**

14 "TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND HONOR THE CITY OF
15 CROSSETT AS IT CELEBRATES ITS
16 CENTENNIAL. "

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19 WHEREAS, Three investors, who were Edward Savage Crossett, Dr. John
20 Wenzel Watzek, and Charles Warner Gates, all of whom were from Davenport,
21 Iowa, formed a partnership in the 1890's; and

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23 WHEREAS, The goal of this partnership was to invest in land and timber
24 in the South; and

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26 WHEREAS, This partnership acquired an option on 50,000 acres of land in
27 southeast Arkansas for the purpose of furthering this goal; and

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29 WHEREAS, In May of 1899, the Crossett Lumber Company was incorporated
30 under the laws of the State of Arkansas, taking its name from the senior
31 member of this partnership; and

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33 WHEREAS, Edgar Woodward "Cap" Gates, also of Iowa and the brother of
34 Charles Warner Gates, was given the job of starting the forest products
35 enterprise; and

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1 WHEREAS, Edgar Woodward Gates chose a site in western Ashley County for
2 his mill and town; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Crossett Lumber Company succeeded beyond the expectations
5 of its founders, and the city of Crossett grew to become known as the "Forest
6 Products Capital of the South"; and

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8 WHEREAS, the city of Crossett grew and prospered as the Crossett Lumber
9 Company grew and prospered; and

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11 WHEREAS, in 1962 the Georgia Pacific Corporation acquired the entire
12 town of Crossett, its mills and an accompanying 500,000 acres of Southern Pine
13 Forest from the Crossett Company successor to the Crossett Lumber Company; and

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15 WHEREAS, The city of Crossett continues to grow and prosper along with
16 its major industry; and

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18 WHEREAS, This growth has also been the result of the efforts of other
19 forest products related firms such as Bemis Corporation and Jefferson Smurfit;
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, The city of Crossett currently has a population of over 5,000
23 people; and

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25 WHEREAS, The city of Crossett is engaged in a series of events in 1999
26 to celebrate its centennial; and

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28 WHEREAS, The descendants of the four distinguished founding fathers have
29 been invited to a day in their honor in Crossett on Saturday, June 12, 1999;
30 and

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32 WHEREAS, on the above date, officially designated as "Founders' Day", a
33 downtown park located on the site of the famous hotel known as "The Rose Inn"
34 will be dedicated "Centennial Park"; and

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36 WHEREAS, There will be other celebratory events during the year drawing

1 attention to the unique origin and history of Crossett, Arkansas.

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3 NOW THEREFORE,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND GENERAL

5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

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7 That the State of Arkansas acknowledges and honors the city of Crossett
8 as it celebrates its centennial.

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