

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/15/01

2 83rd General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 2001

HCR 1040

4
5 By: Representative Womack

6 By: Senator Hunter

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8
9 **HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

10 RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS AS A "STATE OF CHARACTER".

11
12 **Subtitle**

13 RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS AS A "STATE OF
14 CHARACTER".

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17 *WHEREAS, the people of the State of Arkansas recognize the importance*
18 *of having citizens with honorable character qualities based upon the moral*
19 *standards held by our Founding Fathers and with which they established our*
20 *nation and legal system; and*

21
22 *WHEREAS, we recognize the validity of the statement by Alexis de*
23 *Tocqueville that "America is great because she is good. When America ceases*
24 *to be good, she will cease to be great"; and*

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26 *WHEREAS, we desire to build upon our heritage in making Arkansas a*
27 *place where families are strong, homes and streets are safe, education is*
28 *effective, business is productive, neighbors care about one another, and*
29 *citizens are free to make wise choices for their lives and families; and*

30
31 *WHEREAS, we recognize that individuals are responsible for their*
32 *actions and that daily decisions should be based upon objective moral*
33 *standards which are the basis of universally-recognized character qualities,*
34 *including obedience, honesty, truthfulness, diligence, generosity, kindness,*
35 *loyalty, and courage; and*

1 WHEREAS, lack of commitment and irresponsibility have resulted in an
2 increasing number of family problems causing personal, social, and financial
3 consequences to individual family members and to this State as a whole; and
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5 WHEREAS, there is a need for more positive role models among our young
6 people to help prevent juvenile rebellion and delinquency; and
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8 WHEREAS, if people fail to demonstrate positive character qualities and
9 if they make wrong moral choices, the health, safety, and welfare of the
10 citizens are endangered, resulting in a financial burden upon the taxpayers
11 for the costs of law enforcement; and
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13 WHEREAS, many current societal problems will be alleviated when the
14 citizens of this State live by positive and constructive character qualities
15 which distinguish between right and wrong; and
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17 WHEREAS, teaching positive character qualities to juvenile delinquents
18 has been shown to produce a change in behavior, reducing recidivism rates;
19 and
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21 WHEREAS, our schools should be a safe atmosphere where character is
22 exemplified, taught, and strengthened, and where learning is encouraged; and
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24 WHEREAS, encouraging employees by recognizing positive character
25 qualities has resulted in an increase in workplace morale, employee safety,
26 and corporate profits; and
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28 WHEREAS, the emphasis of positive character qualities in every sector
29 of society can only occur as individuals commit themselves to exemplifying
30 character in their personal lives and inspiring others to do the same,
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32 NOW THEREFORE,

33 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-THIRD GENERAL
34 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN,
35

36 That we pledge our commitment to character by declaring Arkansas to be

1 *a State of Character and by doing all in our power to promote character in*
2 *our schools, businesses, homes, churches, city government, state agencies,*
3 *media, and community groups, and we urge the leaders of each of these*
4 *jurisdictions to do likewise.*

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7 */s/ Womack*
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