

1 State of Arkansas
2 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007

As Engrossed: H2/19/07

HR 1017

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By: Representatives S. Dobbins, Allen, T. Baker, Blount, Breedlove, E. Brown, Chesterfield, Davis,
Flowers, Hardy, W. Lewellen, Pyle, Ragland, Rainey, Shelby, Wagner

9 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

10 AN ACT TO COMMEMORATE DAISY GATSON BATES ON
11 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2007.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO COMMEMORATE DAISY GATSON BATES ON
15 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2007.

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18 WHEREAS, renowned human and civil rights activist, Daisy Lee Gatson
19 Bates was born in Huttig, Arkansas on November 11, 1914; and

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21 WHEREAS, in 1941, Ms. Bates, along with her husband, L. C. Bates,
22 established the most influential African-American newspaper in the civil
23 rights movement in Arkansas, the "Arkansas State Press"; and

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25 WHEREAS, in 1952, Ms. Bates was elected the first woman president of
26 the Arkansas Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of
27 Colored People; and

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29 WHEREAS, in 1957, Ms. Bates became the advisor to the famous "Little
30 Rock Nine", the first group of African-American students to integrate
31 Arkansas' public schools, to implement the Little Rock School Board's
32 desegregation plan at Central High School; and

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34 WHEREAS, in 1962, Ms. Bates published her memoirs of the Central High
35 School crisis entitled, "The Long Shadow of Little Rock", containing an
36 introduction by Eleanor Roosevelt; and



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2 WHEREAS, Ms. Bates received many awards and honors both locally and
3 nationally. In May of 1984, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws
4 degree by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; and

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6 WHEREAS, 14th Street in Little Rock, Arkansas has been renamed Daisy L.
7 Gatson Bates Drive in honor of Ms. Bates' achievements; and

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9 WHEREAS, on November 4, 1999, Ms. Bates died and was buried at the
10 Haven of Rest Cemetery in Little Rock, Arkansas; and

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12 WHEREAS, in 2001, the General Assembly designated the third Monday in
13 February as Daisy Gatson Bates Day; and

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15 WHEREAS, Ms. Daisy Lee Gatson Bates should continue to be honored by
16 the State of Arkansas for her historic renown as a civil rights leader and
17 for her distinguished civic services,

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19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 THAT the House of Representatives of the Eighty-Sixth General Assembly
23 of the State of Arkansas honors the memory of the late Ms. Daisy Lee Gatson
24 Bates and celebrates her life and achievements this 19th day of February,
25 2007, Daisy Gatson Bates Day.

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27 */s/ S. Dobbins, et al*
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