

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

SR 12

4
5 By: Senator Critcher

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8 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

9 COMMENDING JOHN C. WYVILL UPON HIS DEPARTURE FROM
10 THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE EDUCATION.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 COMMENDING JOHN C. WYVILL UPON HIS
14 DEPARTURE FROM THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT
15 OF WORKFORCE EDUCATION.

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18 WHEREAS, John C. Wyvill has announced his intentions to leave his
19 position as Director of the Department of Workforce Education on March 15,
20 2007; and

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22 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill made history as the first deaf person to serve as
23 an Arkansas cabinet member; and

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25 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill has overcome countless challenges in his life due
26 to his disability; and

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28 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill's family learned when he was four (4) years old
29 that he had a ninety-five percent (95%) hearing loss; and

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31 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill was the first child with a disability to be
32 mainstreamed in his elementary school, presenting countless challenges with
33 curriculum and facilities; and

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35 WHEREAS, upon his graduation from high school, Mr. Wyvill became the
36 first member of his family to attend college; and



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2 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill then proceeded to law school, becoming the first
3 hearing-impaired student to enroll in his law school; and

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5 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill overcame the difficulties arising from his
6 disability in law school, stating that he “had to basically work two (2) or
7 three (3) times harder than anyone else”; and

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9 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill found more barriers to overcome when beginning his
10 legal practice as courtrooms were not enabled to accommodate his disability;
11 and

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13 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill began his career in government by serving on the
14 transition team of then-Lieutenant Governor Huckabee and accepting a position
15 as assistant legal counsel to the Governor; and

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17 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill was later appointed commissioner of Arkansas
18 Rehabilitation Services, a position he held for six (6) years; and

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20 WHEREAS, the State Board of Workforce Education and Career
21 Opportunities appointed him Director of the Department of Workforce Education
22 in 2005; and

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24 WHEREAS, Mr. Wyvill is involved in other public service activities,
25 serving as a member of the U.S. Access Board and the National Technical
26 Institute for the Deaf National Advisory Group; and

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28 WHEREAS, while Mr. Wyvill is leaving state service he plans to continue
29 to serve the citizens of the state by speaking out for those overlooked by
30 society,

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32 NOW THEREFORE,

33 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
34 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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36 That the Senate of the Eighty-Sixth General Assembly commends John C.

1 Wyvill for his distinguished service to the State of Arkansas and wishes him
2 all the best in his future endeavors.

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Secretary of the Senate shall deliver a
5 copy of this resolution to John C. Wyvill.

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