

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

SR 8

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5 By: Senator Steele  
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8 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

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

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12 **Subtitle**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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1           WHEREAS, Ms. Bates received many awards and honors both locally and  
2 nationally. In May of 1984, she was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws  
3 degree by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; and  
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5           WHEREAS, 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Little Rock, Arkansas has been renamed Daisy L.  
6 Gatson Bates Drive in honor of Ms. Bates' achievements; and  
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8           WHEREAS, on November 4, 1999, Ms. Bates died and was buried at the  
9 Haven of Rest Cemetery in Little Rock, Arkansas; and  
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11           WHEREAS, in 2001, the General Assembly designated the third Monday in  
12 February as Daisy Gatson Bates Day; and  
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14           WHEREAS, Ms. Daisy Lee Gatson Bates should continue to be honored by  
15 the State of Arkansas for her historic renown as a civil rights leader and  
16 for her distinguished civic services,  
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18 NOW THEREFORE,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE  
20 STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22           THAT the Senate of the Eighty-Sixth General Assembly of the State of  
23 Arkansas honors the memory of the late Ms. Daisy Lee Gatson Bates and  
24 celebrates her life and achievements this 19th day of February, 2007, Daisy  
25 Gatson Bates Day.  
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