

1 State of Arkansas  
2 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

*As Engrossed: H3/26/09*

HR 1029

4  
5 By: Representatives Woods, *Carroll*

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8 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

9 COMMENDING MICHAEL MARION ON HIS SUCCESSFUL  
10 MANAGEMENT OF ALLTEL ARENA IN NORTH LITTLE ROCK,  
11 ARKANSAS.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 COMMENDING MICHAEL MARION ON HIS  
15 SUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT OF ALLTEL ARENA IN  
16 NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

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18  
19 WHEREAS, Michael Marion is General Manager of Alltel Arena in North  
20 Little Rock, Arkansas, a position he has held since 1997 when he moved to  
21 Little Rock to assist in the design and construction of the arena until it  
22 opened in 1999; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion was born and raised in Tupelo, Mississippi;  
25 received a Masters' Degree in Business Administration from Mississippi State  
26 University in 1978; and worked at Mississippi State University as program  
27 advisor, booking Billy Joel, Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, and  
28 Earth, Wind, and Fire; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion moved in 1982 to Los Angeles, California, to work  
31 as an agent for Triad Artists until 1988; and as an agent for six (6) years,  
32 he booked artists such as Tina Turner, Whitney Houston, and Steve Winwood;  
33 and

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35 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion returned to Tupelo, Mississippi, in 1988 to become  
36 the Director of the Tupelo Coliseum, where he presented artists including Tom



1 Petty, The Eagles, and Reba McEntire; and

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3 WHEREAS, Alltel Arena opened in 1999 with Mr. Marion already on board  
4 as General Manager, helping the arena quickly gain stature as a touring  
5 location for top national and international acts; and

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7 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion brings in an average of twenty (20) concerts per  
8 year to Alltel Arena, including regular sold-out performances by Kenny  
9 Chesney and the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, top-grossing act the Rolling Stones  
10 in 2006, second-largest grossing act The Eagles, largest-attendance act  
11 George Strait in 2006, and teen-favorite Hannah Montana; and

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13 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion was instrumental in bringing to Alltel Arena the  
14 2003 SEC Women's Basketball Tournament, setting attendance records and  
15 leading to the SEC 2005 Women's Basketball Tournament, the Gymnastics  
16 Championships in 2008, the NCAA 2008 Men's Basketball Tournament, and the SEC  
17 2009 Women's Basketball Tournament; and

18  
19 *WHEREAS, Mr. Marion's success in bringing to Alltel Arena top-quality*  
20 *family entertainment and musical and sporting events, including Jermaine*  
21 *Taylor boxing events among others, has had a significant economic impact on*  
22 *and brought national recognition to Central Arkansas; and*

23  
24 *WHEREAS, Mr. Marion has contributed to the Central Arkansas community*  
25 *by providing an opportunity for various nonprofit groups to handle*  
26 *concessions during events with proceeds derived going back to the nonprofit*  
27 *groups, as well as by his speaking engagements with community service*  
28 *organizations including Kiwanis Clubs, Lions Clubs, Optimist Clubs, and*  
29 *Rotary Clubs; and*

30  
31 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion has brought in approximately four million four  
32 hundred thousand (4,400,000) people to Alltel Arena since its opening in  
33 1999; and

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35 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion was named Pollstar Magazine Facility Executive of  
36 the Year in 2004; is an International Association of Assembly Managers

1 Certified Facilities Executive; is a member of the Arena Managers Network,  
2 the Senior Executive Symposium, the Concert Industry Consortium, Billboard,  
3 and Pollstar; is a member of Main Street Argenta, the Riverfest Board of  
4 Directors, the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, the North Little Rock Chamber  
5 of Commerce, the Downtown Partnership, Argenta Downtown Council, and the  
6 North Little Rock Public Relations and Marketing Committee; and serves as  
7 Scoutmaster to his 12-year-old son Jonah's Boy Scout Troop 604 in Little  
8 Rock, Arkansas; and

9

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion is married to former agent and Los Angeles native  
11 Meg Goldenberg,

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13 NOW THEREFORE,

14 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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17 THAT the House of Representatives commends Mr. Michael Marion on his  
18 successful management of Alltel Arena and his ability to draw high-profile  
19 touring acts to Arkansas.

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate  
22 copy shall be provided to Mr. Marion by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
23 Representatives.

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25 /s/ Woods

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