

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

*As Engrossed: H3/26/09 H4/3/09*

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.

12  
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; and*

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29 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion moved in 1982 to Los Angeles, California, to work  
30 *as an agent for Triad Artists until 1988; and*

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32 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion returned to Tupelo, Mississippi, in 1988 to become  
33 *the Director of the Tupelo Coliseum; and*

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35 WHEREAS, Alltel Arena opened in 1999 with Mr. Marion already on board  
36 as General Manager, helping the arena quickly gain stature as a touring



1 location for top national and international acts; and

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

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9 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion was instrumental in bringing to Alltel Arena the  
10 2003 SEC Women's Basketball Tournament, setting attendance records and  
11 leading to the SEC 2005 Women's Basketball Tournament, the Gymnastics  
12 Championships in 2008, the NCAA 2008 Men's Basketball Tournament, and the SEC  
13 2009 Women's Basketball Tournament; and

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

19  
20 *WHEREAS, Mr. Marion has contributed to the Central Arkansas community*  
21 *by providing an opportunity for various nonprofit groups to handle*  
22 *concessions during events with proceeds derived going back to the nonprofit*  
23 *groups, as well as by his speaking engagements with community service*  
24 *organizations including Kiwanis Clubs, Lions Clubs, Optimist Clubs, and*  
25 *Rotary Clubs; and*

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27 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion has brought in approximately four million four  
28 hundred thousand (4,400,000) people to Alltel Arena since its opening in  
29 1999; and

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31 WHEREAS, Mr. Marion was named Pollstar Magazine Facility Executive of  
32 the Year in 2004; is an International Association of Assembly Managers  
33 Certified Facilities Executive; is a member of the Arena Managers Network,  
34 the Senior Executive Symposium, the Concert Industry Consortium, Billboard,  
35 and Pollstar; is a member of Main Street Argenta, the Riverfest Board of  
36 Directors, the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, the North Little Rock Chamber

1 of Commerce, the Downtown Partnership, Argenta Downtown Council, and the  
2 North Little Rock Public Relations and Marketing Committee; and serves as  
3 Scoutmaster to his 12-year-old son Jonah's Boy Scout Troop 604 in Little  
4 Rock, Arkansas,

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6 NOW THEREFORE,

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

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

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

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18 */s/ Woods*

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