

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015

SR 3

4  
5 By: Senator Rapert

6  
7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO COMMEMORATE PRESIDENT GEORGE WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY  
9 AND TO HONOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COUNTRY.

10  
11  
12 **Subtitle**

13 TO COMMEMORATE PRESIDENT GEORGE  
14 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY AND TO HONOR HIS  
15 CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COUNTRY.

16  
17 WHEREAS, President George Washington was born February 22, 1732, in  
18 Westmoreland County, Virginia; and

19  
20 WHEREAS, traditionally celebrated on the third Monday in February, this  
21 year we will celebrate President Washington's birthday on February 16, 2015;  
22 and

23  
24 WHEREAS, in 1775, on the brink of the American Revolutionary War,  
25 Washington commissioned six privately owned schooners, later known as "George  
26 Washington's Secret Navy", to intercept incoming British ships with much-  
27 needed supplies after his failed petition to Congress to form a national  
28 navy; and

29  
30 WHEREAS, President Washington's schooners flew a white flag with an  
31 evergreen tree in the middle and the words "An Appeal to Heaven" stitched  
32 across, a phrase coined by English philosopher John Locke which connotes that  
33 when all resources and justices on earth are exhausted only an "appeal to  
34 heaven" remains; and

35  
36 WHEREAS, "George Washington's Secret Navy" captured a British



1 brigantine loaded with an abundance of supplies, and was so successful that  
2 it inspired the creation of the United States Navy as we know it today; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, President Washington served as a general and commander-in-  
5 chief of the colonial armies during the American Revolution, and because of  
6 his strategy, Revolutionary forces captured two major British armies at  
7 Saratoga in 1777 and Yorktown in 1781; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, President Washington was praised for his selection and  
10 supervision of his generals, encouragement of morale and ability to lead the  
11 army, coordination with the state governors and state militia units,  
12 relations with Congress, and attention to supplies, logistics, and training;  
13 and

14  
15 WHEREAS, President Washington presided over the 1787 Constitutional  
16 Convention in Philadelphia and was later unanimously elected by the Electoral  
17 College as the first president of the United States, serving from 1789 to  
18 1797, and established many customs in government still used today, such as  
19 the cabinet system and an inaugural address; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, President Washington was a natural leader and instrumental in  
22 creating a united nation out of a conglomeration of struggling colonies and  
23 territories, and his birthday is a special day for the United States of  
24 America as we honor our first president and the father of our country,

25  
26 NOW THEREFORE,  
27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE  
28 OF ARKANSAS:

29  
30 THAT the Senate of the Ninetieth General Assembly honors President  
31 George Washington as we celebrate his birthday and recognize his many  
32 contributions to our nation.