

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017

HR 1014

4
5 By: Representative Vaught
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7 HOUSE RESOLUTION

8 TO HONOR ZAYDEN DAVIS FOR HIS BRAVERY AND RESILIENCE
9 IN BATTLING NEUROFIBROMATOSIS AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS
10 PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND
11 DEDICATION DURING HIS TREATMENT.
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14 Subtitle

15 TO HONOR ZAYDEN DAVIS FOR HIS BRAVERY AND
16 RESILIENCE IN BATTLING NEUROFIBROMATOSIS
17 AND TO RECOGNIZE HIS PARENTS AND
18 GRANDPARENTS FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND
19 DEDICATION DURING HIS TREATMENT.
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22 WHEREAS, neurofibromatosis, or NF, is a genetic disorder characterized
23 by the growth of tumors on nerves; and
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25 WHEREAS, there are three (3) types of NF, including NF1, NF2, and
26 schwannomatosis; and the most common type is NF1, also called Von
27 Recklinghausen's disease, which is estimated to affect one (1) in every three
28 thousand (3,000) people throughout the world; and
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30 WHEREAS, NF may affect anyone, regardless of family history, race,
31 gender, or ethnicity; and
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33 WHEREAS, complications of NF may include severe pain, bone
34 abnormalities, blindness, deafness, and cancer; and
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36 WHEREAS, NF1 is usually diagnosed in childhood; and



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2 WHEREAS, Zayden Smith of Greenbrier, Arkansas, was diagnosed with NF1
3 when he was only three (3) months old; and
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5 WHEREAS, when Zayden was fifteen (15) months old, in November 2015, he
6 had his first MRI, which revealed an optic pathway glioma on his left optic
7 nerve; and
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9 WHEREAS, a subsequent scan was performed three (3) months later in
10 February 2016, which showed some signs of regression, and Zayden's physicians
11 decided to scan the area again in six (6) months; and
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13 WHEREAS, in August 2016, an MRI revealed that Zayden had an optic
14 pathway glioma on both his left and right eyes and one on the chiasm where
15 the optic nerves meet, threatening Zayden's vision; and
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17 WHEREAS, Zayden and his family were advised by his physicians to
18 implement a treatment plan due to the aggressive nature of the tumors; and
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20 WHEREAS, the treatment plan includes weekly chemotherapy treatments at
21 the Arkansas Children's Hospital for a year, the treatment ending in
22 September 2017; and
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24 WHEREAS, Zayden will undergo another scan three (3) months post-
25 treatment to detect any growth of the tumors; and
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27 WHEREAS, Zayden has demonstrated bravery and resilience as he continues
28 to battle this genetic disorder; and
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30 WHEREAS, Zayden's parents, Matt and Phaylan Davis, and grandparents, Jo
31 and Larry Davis and Gregg and Janette Clements, have given constant support
32 and dedication during Zayden's treatment,
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34 NOW THEREFORE,

35 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL
36 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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2 THAT the House of Representatives acknowledge the struggles of children
3 diagnosed with neurofibromatosis, honor Zayden Davis for his bravery and
4 resilience in battling this disease, and recognize his parents and
5 grandparents for their support and dedication during his treatment.
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption of this resolution, a copy shall be
8 provided to the family of Zayden Davis by the Chief Clerk of the House of
9 Representatives.
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