

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021

HR 1020

4
5 By: Representative C. Cooper

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF THE ARKANSAS 4-H
9 PROGRAM ON OUR YOUTH AND TO CELEBRATE THE ONE-
10 HUNDRED-TWELFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROGRAM.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO RECOGNIZE THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF THE
15 ARKANSAS 4-H PROGRAM ON OUR YOUTH AND TO
16 CELEBRATE THE ONE-HUNDRED-TWELFTH
17 ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROGRAM.

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20 WHEREAS, in October 1908, a group of about sixty-five (65) boys formed
21 the White County Corn and Cotton Club as a way to learn the latest in
22 agricultural technology resulting in their learned agricultural practices
23 being adopted by their counterparts – a club that became the Arkansas 4-H
24 program; and

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26 WHEREAS, while the activities that the participants enjoy may have
27 changed since 1908, the mission of 4-H to help the youth of this country
28 become productive citizens has not changed; and

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30 WHEREAS, the seed planted by that first club provided the roots for a
31 program that today reaches more than one hundred thirty-three thousand
32 (133,000) youth, ages five to nineteen (5-19) years of age, across the
33 seventy-five (75) counties in Arkansas, including rural, suburban, and urban
34 youth; and

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36 WHEREAS, 4-H is the premier youth development program conducted by the



1 University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and is the only informal
2 education program with a direct connection to the University of Arkansas; and

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4 WHEREAS, through informal, science- and research-based, and
5 experiential education activities, 4-H participants gain knowledge and
6 enhance life skills, enabling them to become positive, productive, capable,
7 and compassionate members of society; and

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9 WHEREAS, 4-H is designed to prepare young people to step up to the
10 challenges in their communities and provide youth with the skills to lead for
11 a lifetime; the core elements of 4-H include youth leadership, youth-adult
12 partnerships, life skills learning, and community service; and 4-H members
13 complete hands-on projects in areas like science, health, agriculture, and
14 citizenship in a positive environment where they receive guidance from adult
15 mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive leadership roles; and

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17 WHEREAS, the Arkansas 4-H program fosters an innovative “learn-by-
18 doing” approach with proven results, and 4-H is committed to building
19 outstanding leaders with marketable skills to succeed in today’s global
20 society, through in-school programs, on military installations, and through
21 after-school programs; and

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23 WHEREAS, findings from the Tufts University 4-H Study of Positive Youth
24 Development indicate that when compared to their peers young people in 4-H
25 make more civic contributions to their communities and make healthier
26 choices; and

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28 WHEREAS, in 2019 the National 4-H Council partnered with Edge Research
29 to conduct a study of all 4-H alumni across the country, and the results
30 found that a 4-H experience correlates with long-term success in life; and

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32 WHEREAS, 4-H is the nation’s largest youth development organization,
33 empowering six million (6,000,000) young people throughout the United States;
34 and

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36 WHEREAS, the structured learning, encouragement, and adult mentoring

1 provided to 4-H members by the thousands of hours given by Arkansas
2 volunteers play a vital role in helping our youth achieve success,

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4 NOW THEREFORE,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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8 THAT the House of Representatives recognize the positive impact of the
9 Arkansas 4-H program on our youth and celebrate the one-hundred-twelfth
10 anniversary of the program in Arkansas.

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