1	State of Arkansas	A D:11	
2	93rd General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2021		SENATE BILL 715
4			
5	By: Senator C. Tucker		
6	By: Representative Love		
7			
8		For An Act To Be Entitled	
9	AN ACT C	ONCERNING THE STATE FLAG OF ARKANSAS; TO	
10	AMEND TH	E LAW CONCERNING THE SYMBOLS ON THE STAT	Έ
11	FLAG OF A	ARKANSAS; TO REDESIGNATE THE STARS ON TH	Έ
12	STATE FL	AG OF ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.	
13			
14			
15		Subtitle	
16	CON	CERNING THE STATE FLAG OF ARKANSAS; TO	
17	AME	ND THE LAW CONCERNING THE SYMBOLS ON	
18	THE	STATE FLAG OF ARKANSAS; AND TO	
19	RED	ESIGNATE THE STARS ON THE STATE FLAG	
20	OF	ARKANSAS.	
21			
22			
23	BE IT ENACTED BY THE	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANS	AS:
24			
25	SECTION 1. DO	NOT CODIFY. <u>Legislative findings.</u>	
26	<u>The General As</u>	sembly finds that:	
27	<u>(1) Ark</u>	ansas was once home to numerous thriving	<u>Native American</u>
28	tribes, including th	e Quapaw, the Osage, the Caddo, and the	<u>Tunica;</u>
29	<u>(2) The</u>	name "Arkansas" is derived from the Nat	<u>ive American word</u>
30	<u>"Acansa", a name tha</u>	t refers to the Quapaw and means "southe	rn place";
31	<u>(3)</u> The	forced migration of Native Americans al	ong the Trail of
32	<u>Tears during the 183</u>	<u>Os brought even more Native American tri</u>	<u>bes through</u>
33	<u>Arkansas, such as th</u>	e Cherokee, who established a large sett	lement along the
34	Arkansas River near	modern-day Russellville before being for	ced to move
35	again, all the while	suffering from disease, drought, and at	tacks from both
36	<u>other Native America</u>	n tribes and neighboring settlers;	



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1	(4) The designation of the Menard-Hodges Site near Dumas,		
2	Arkansas, as a National Historic Landmark in 1989 as well as the designation		
3	of other sacred sites in Arkansas under President Clinton's 1996 Executive		
4	Order 13007 has allowed the modern Caddo, Cherokee, Osage, Quapaw, and Tunica		
5	to reclaim their ancestral ties to Arkansas;		
6	(5) Today, the Arkansas Archeological Survey maintains ten (10)		
7	research stations across the state that work to preserve the history of		
8	Arkansas's original inhabitants;		
9	(6) Native American history and culture are an important part of		
10	the history of this state;		
11	(7) The territory of Arkansas was admitted to the United States		
12	of America as the twenty-fifth state on June 15, 1836;		
13	(8) The state flag of Arkansas was designed by Willie Hocker of		
14	Jefferson County;		
15	(9) The General Assembly adopted the design of Willie Hocker as		
16	the official flag of Arkansas on February 26, 1913;		
17	(10) In 1923, Representative Neill Bohlinger of Pulaski County,		
18	<u>a known and open member of the Ku Klux Klan, proposed that the design be</u>		
19	altered with an additional blue star to commemorate the state's historical		
20	membership in the Confederate States of America, which the General Assembly		
21	voted to approve; and		
22	(11) In 1924, the General Assembly moved the star commemorating		
23	the state's historical membership in the Confederate States of America above		
24	the word "ARKANSAS" on the flag and placed the star commemorating the United		
25	States of America in subordination to it.		
26			
27	SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 1-4-101(b), concerning the meaning of the		
28	symbols on the state flag of Arkansas, is amended to read as follows:		
29	(b) <u>(1)</u> The three (3) stars <del>so placed are designed to</del> <u>below the word</u>		
30	<u>"ARKANSAS</u> represent the:		
31	(A) The three (3) nations, France, Spain, and,		
32	<u>collectively</u> , the <del>United States</del> <u>Native American nations</u> , <del>which</del> <u>that</u> have		
33	successively exercised dominion over Arkansas. These stars also indicate		
34	that; and		
35	(B) Arkansas was as the third state carved out of the		
36	Louisiana Purchase.		

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(2) Of these the three (3) stars below the word "ARKANSAS", the twin stars parallel with each other signify that Arkansas and Michigan are twin sister states, having been admitted that were offered admission to the Union together on June 15, 1836, with Arkansas becoming the twenty-fifth state admitted to the Union on June 15, 1836, and Michigan following a few months later on January 26, 1837. (3) The twenty-five (25) white stars on the band of blue show that Arkansas was the twenty-fifth state admitted to the Union. (4) The blue star above the word "ARKANSAS" is to commemorate the Confederate States of America represents the United States of America. (5) The diamond signifies that this state is the only diamond-bearing state in the Union.