

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023

SR 14

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5 By: Senator Gilmore

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF THE ARKANSAS 4-H  
9 PROGRAM ON OUR YOUTH AND TO PROCLAIM 4-H DAY ON  
10 FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

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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 PROCLAIM 4-H DAY ON FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

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

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

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28 WHEREAS, the seed planted by that first club provided the roots for a  
29 program that today reaches more than one hundred forty-four thousand  
30 (144,000) youth in school enrichment programs and over two hundred fifty  
31 eight thousand (258,000) youth in all program areas, ages five to nineteen (5  
32 – 19), across the seventy-five (75) counties in Arkansas, including rural,  
33 suburban, and urban youth; and

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35 WHEREAS, 4-H is the premier youth development program conducted by the  
36 Cooperative Extension Service of the University of Arkansas System Division



1 of Agriculture; and

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

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8 WHEREAS, 4-H is designed to prepare young people to step up to the  
9 challenges in their communities and provide youth with the skills to lead for  
10 a lifetime; the core elements of 4-H include youth leadership, youth-adult  
11 partnerships, life skills learning, and community service; and

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13 WHEREAS, 4-H members complete hands-on projects in areas like science,  
14 health, agriculture, and citizenship in a positive environment where they  
15 receive guidance from adult mentors and are encouraged to take on proactive  
16 leadership roles; and

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

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

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

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

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1           WHEREAS, the structured learning, encouragement, and adult mentoring  
2 provided to 4-H members by the thousands of hours given by Arkansas  
3 volunteers play a vital role in helping our youth achieve success,  
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5 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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8           THAT the Senate recognize the positive impact of the Arkansas 4-H  
9 program on our youth and proclaim February 28, 2023, as 4-H Day at the State  
10 Capitol.  
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