

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Fiscal Session, 2024

HR 1035

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5 By: Representatives Hollowell, Tosh

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE THE MARKED TREE HIGH SCHOOL INDIANS  
9 BASKETBALL TEAM AS THE 2023-2024 CLASS 1A BOYS  
10 BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS; AND TO RECOGNIZE COACH  
11 BARBARA WILBURN-COVINGTON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS HEAD  
12 COACH OF THE SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM.

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15 **Subtitle**

16 TO RECOGNIZE THE MARKED TREE HIGH SCHOOL  
17 INDIANS BASKETBALL TEAM AS THE 2023-2024  
18 CLASS 1A BOYS BASKETBALL STATE CHAMPIONS;  
19 AND TO RECOGNIZE COACH BARBARA WILBURN-  
20 COVINGTON'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AS HEAD  
21 COACH.

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24 WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians defeated the Nevada High  
25 School Blue Jays to claim the 2023-2024 Boy's Class 1A Basketball State  
26 Championship title on March 9, 2024, at the Bank OZK Arena in Hot Springs,  
27 Arkansas; and

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29 WHEREAS, the game marked the Marked Tree High School Indians' first  
30 state championship win since 2001; and

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32 WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians won 66-43 over the Nevada  
33 High School Blue Jays, making the title the sixth in Marked Tree High School  
34 history; and

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36 WHEREAS, Ladarrius Brown was named Most Valuable Player of the state



1 championship finals with twenty (20) points, six (6) rebounds, and four (4)  
2 steals; and

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4 WHEREAS, Kenyon Carter and Jonah Walker each added ten (10) points for  
5 the Marked Tree High School Indians; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians finished the 2023-2024  
8 season with a 35-3 record; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Marked Tree High School Indians were led by Head Coach  
11 Barbara Wilburn-Covington; and

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13 WHEREAS, Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington is in her nineteenth  
14 season as the head coach of the senior boys basketball team; and

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16 WHEREAS, Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington coached the Marked Tree  
17 High School Indians in 2001 when the team won the school's previous state  
18 championship title; and

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20 WHEREAS, more women are gaining prominence in coaching men's sports and  
21 Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington has been recognized as having one (1) of  
22 the longest active coaching streaks and has proved that women can coach boys,  
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24 NOW THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
26 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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28 THAT the House of Representatives recognize:

29 (1) The Marked Tree High School Indians as the 2023-2024 Class  
30 1A Boys Basketball State Champions; and

31 (2) Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington for her accomplishments  
32 as the head coach for the Marked Tree High School Indians boys basketball  
33 team.

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon the adoption of this resolution, a copy  
36 shall be provided to Head Coach Barbara Wilburn-Covington by the Chief Clerk

1 of the House of Representatives.

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