State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026 HR 1023

By: Representative Puryear

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO CONGRATULATE MR. JUSTIN TATE ON HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

Subtitle

TO CONGRATULATE MR. JUSTIN TATE ON HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

WHEREAS, Mr. Justin Tate of Elkins, Arkansas, is an accomplished Special Olympian and athlete; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games are set to begin on June 20, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, since its founding in 1981 by Kansas Police Chief Richard LaMunyon, the Law Enforcement Torch Run has grown to be the largest grass-roots fundraiser for the Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, since 1987, as part of the Final Leg program of the Law Enforcement Torch Run, law enforcement officers and Special Olympians from around the world have been chosen to represent their country, state, and local Law Enforcement Torch Run organization as a "Guardian of the Flame" and carry the Special Olympics Torch, known as the "Flame of Hope", to the Opening Ceremonies of the Special Olympics World Games and Special Olympics USA Games; and

WHEREAS, the Final Leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run is the culmination of long periods of training, fundraising, awareness efforts, and

preparation for the Special Olympics, and is the final torch relay of the Special Olympics, in which the Guardians of the Flame bring the Flame of Hope to light the cauldron at the opening ceremony of the Special Olympics games, and symbolizes the official start of competition; and

WHEREAS, there may only be up to eight (8) Special Olympians chosen as Guardians of the Flame for a specific Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tate was chosen to participate as a Guardian of the Flame in the Final Leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tate was chosen to be a Guardian of the Flame due to his dedication and passion to supporting Special Olympics Arkansas, as well as his conditioning and ability to run up to five (5) miles per day; and

WHEREAS, in his role as a Guardian of the Flame, Mr. Tate will carry the Flame of Hope to the Opening Ceremonies of the Special Olympics USA Games; and

WHEREAS, the duties of Guardian of the Flame will begin for Mr. Tate on May 30, 2026, and Mr. Tate will run across the United States until the beginning of the Opening Ceremonies at the Special Olympics USA Games on June 20, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota; and

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives congratulate Mr. Justin Tate for his selection as a Guardian of the Flame of the Final Leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run, and laud Mr. Justin Tate for his dedication and passion to supporting Special Olympics Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Justin Tate by the Chief Clerk of the House of

Representatives.