

By: Senator Elliott

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE ELIZABETH CALLAN FLANAGAN BUMPERS FOR HER WORK TO PROMOTE CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION; AND TO ENCOURAGE ARKANSAS FAMILIES TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE ELIZABETH CALLAN FLANAGAN BUMPERS FOR HER WORK TO PROMOTE CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION; AND TO ENCOURAGE ARKANSAS FAMILIES TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION.

WHEREAS, Elizabeth "Betty" Callan Flanagan Bumpers has dedicated her life to addressing issues affecting children's health; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bumpers is a former elementary school teacher and the wife of former Arkansas Governor and United States Senator Dale Bumpers; and

WHEREAS, after her husband became governor of Arkansas in 1971, Mrs. Bumpers began to work on important issues of health and education affecting Arkansas families and children; and

WHEREAS, when Mrs. Bumpers became the First Lady of Arkansas, our state had one of the lowest immunization rates in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bumpers spearheaded the Every Child by '74 campaign to have every child in Arkansas immunized which quickly became a national model



as Arkansas achieved one of the highest immunization rates in the country;
and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Mrs. Bumpers moved to Washington D.C. after her husband's election to the United States Senate where she joined First Lady Rosalynn Carter to expand the immunization campaign with help from the White House, the Center for Disease Control, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services, formerly the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Mrs. Bumpers and Mrs. Carter launched the national Every Child by Two campaign with the assistance of the Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia, which is an extensive outreach program that makes disease and childhood immunization information available to parents and health professionals; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, President Bill Clinton launched the Vaccine Research Center, in recognition of Dale and Betty Bumpers for their efforts to promote childhood immunizations and research for other vaccines as a comprehensive national health care program; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Mrs. Bumpers testified before the United States Senate Health, Labor and Pensions Committee where she detailed the need for a systematic delivery of vaccines and supported legislation to require health plans to cover childhood immunizations; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bumpers has continued to be a leading advocate and educator for childhood immunizations; and

WHEREAS, in light of serious health events currently affecting children's health in our country and the increasing number of children who will go without essential vaccinations, the Senate encourages Arkansas families to consult with healthcare professionals to discuss the benefits of childhood immunizations and to give serious consideration to the value of childhood immunizations,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate of the Ninetieth General Assembly recognizes Elizabeth "Betty" Callan Flanagan Bumpers for her tireless efforts to promote childhood immunization and encourages Arkansas families to seriously consider the importance of childhood immunization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon its adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Bumpers by the Secretary of the Senate.