

By: Senator M. Pitsch

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO ENCOURAGE THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO DESIGNATE
THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND MAIL TRAIL AS A NATIONAL
HISTORIC TRAIL.

Subtitle

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TO DESIGNATE THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND
MAIL TRAIL AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS:

WHEREAS, the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail, which crosses Arkansas and seven (7) other states, was used by the Butterfield Overland Mail to transport mail and passengers from St. Louis, Missouri, and Memphis, Tennessee, to San Francisco, California, from 1858 to 1861; and

WHEREAS, covering a distance of nearly three thousand (3,000) miles, the path of the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail was one (1) of the longest mail routes using horse-drawn stagecoaches in the history of the United States, starting in Tipton, Missouri and finishing in San Francisco, California; and

WHEREAS, the first stagecoach began its journey on September 16, 1858, with the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail southern route beginning in Tipton, Missouri, meandering south through Arkansas to Fort Smith, with a branch to Memphis, Tennessee, and Little Rock, Arkansas, before heading west; and



WHEREAS, on September 19, 1858, the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail arrived at 2:00 a.m. to a large, cheering crowd in Fort Smith, Arkansas;

WHEREAS, numerous stops of the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail are found in Arkansas at:

- (1) Callahan's Tavern near Rogers, Arkansas;
- (2) Fitzgerald's Station in Springdale, Arkansas;
- (3) Park's Station in Hogeye, Arkansas;
- (4) Brodie's Station near Lee Creek, Arkansas;
- (5) Woolsey's Station at Signal Hill;
- (6) The Van Buren Station; and
- (7) Fort Smith, Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, in addition, stations have been found in Madison, Des Arc, and Paris along with Plumer's Station in Plummerville, Arkansas, , Stinnett's Station, and Potts Inn which is still intact and now is the Potts Inn Museum; and

WHEREAS, a National Historic Trail can only be designated by an Act of Congress; and

WHEREAS, congressional action to designate the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail as a National Historic Trail would help preserve and protect this historic route and its historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate of the Ninety-Second General Assembly of the State of Arkansas respectfully urges the United States Congress to designate the Butterfield Overland Mail Trail as a National Historic Trail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, upon its adoption, an official copy of

this resolution, with a request to enter this resolution in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States, be sent by the Arkansas Secretary of State to:

- (1) The President of the United States;
- (2) The President of the Senate of the United States Senate;
- (3) The Speaker of the House of the United States House of Representatives; and
- (4) The members of the Arkansas Congressional delegation.