

By: Senator Elliott

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE AND TO SUPPORT THE ARKANSAS POOR
PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE AND TO SUPPORT THE ARKANSAS
POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN.

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival, also referred to as the "Arkansas Poor People's Campaign", was officially launched on December 4, 2017, and organized by Rev. Dr. William Barber II, and Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, as a part of a national movement to reignite the 1968 Poor People's Campaign; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the supporters of the Civil Rights Movement, and persons living in poverty in Marks, Mississippi, worked together to organize the 1968 Poor People's Campaign in an effort to end systems of poverty in our country that have been driven by racism, economic exploitation, and militarism; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Poor People's Campaign affirms Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in his declaration that "[t]here is no deficit in human resources; the deficit is in human will"; acknowledges there is a moral urgency to ensure that all persons living in this state are treated with equity and fairness; affirms that systems of poverty and racism create inequities and injustices that are manufactured and can be undone; affirms that our state must stop attacking persons who are already impacted by systems of poverty and racism; and affirms that there is a moral imperative



to ensure that the air, land, water, and living animals of this state are provided the resources and attention needed to ensure that all are able to freely enjoy a healthy place to live, breathe, grow, and thrive; and

WHEREAS, in the words of Rev. Dr. William Barber II, “[w]ith the realities of systemic racism, systemic poverty, ecological devastation, the war economy, and often the false moral narrative of Christian nationalism, we are in a moment in time [in] which we need a deeply moral, deeply Constitutional, anti-poverty, anti-racist, pro-labor, transformative fusion coalition, where people of all different races, colors, and creeds come together and work together to engage in moral direct action, massive voter mobilization, and power building from the bottom up, state by state and even in the U.S. Capitol. We need this to change the narrative and to insist that we will no longer engage in attention violence against the poor and the other interlocking injustices that connect to poverty”; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Campaign endeavors with a moral urgency to embrace persons of every faith, identity, geography, culture, ethnicity, economic status, ability, disability, age, and defining characteristic known,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate recognizes and supports the Arkansas Poor People’s Campaign.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Arkansas Poor People’s Campaign by the Secretary of the Senate.