

By: Senator Irvin

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE MOUNT ST. MARY ACADEMY FOR 170 YEARS OF
SERVICE TO THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE MOUNT ST. MARY ACADEMY FOR
170 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STATE OF
ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary Academy, located in Little Rock, Arkansas, and founded in 1851, is the oldest high school in the state; and

WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary's, as it is commonly known, is a private, Roman Catholic all-girls school that serves grades nine through twelve (9-12); and

WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary's was established one hundred seventy (170) years ago by the Sisters of Mercy, a congregation founded and established in Dublin, Ireland, by Catherine McAuley to provide solace to sick and needy families, train young girls for employment, and to instruct poor children; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of Mount St. Mary's in 1851 was part of an effort by Arkansas's first Roman Catholic Bishop, Andrew Byrne, to support and serve as a beacon for Catholic settlement in frontier Arkansas; and Bishop Byrne traveled to Dublin and persuaded the Sisters of Mercy to send four (4) sisters and five (5) postulants to the newly formed Diocese of Little Rock, whereupon the Sisters formed the nucleus of the small school that would become Mount St. Mary's; and



WHEREAS, Mount St. Mary's continues to preserve its Catholic faith and Mercy Values such as wisdom, compassion, and integrity, the cultivation of which through a comprehensive curriculum helps young women to navigate life, and continues to be supported by the Sisters of Mercy along with the Mercy Education System of the Americas; and

WHEREAS, under the current leadership of President Mary Patricia "Pattie" Davis, Mount St. Mary's celebrates this anniversary of almost two (2) centuries of service and fortitude; and

WHEREAS, President Davis notes, "Our educational environment is focused on excellence in both faith and academic formation. It instills young ladies with confidence in their own voice as well as an equally strong desire to give back to their community."; and

WHEREAS, equipped with knowledge, the graduates of Mount St. Mary's do indeed leave with confidence, courage, motivation, and drive, and are fierce pioneers who are passionate about making a difference in their communities and the world,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate recognize and celebrate the one-hundred-seventy-year history of Mount St. Mary Academy and the transformative power of faith and knowledge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to President Pattie Davis by the Secretary of the Senate.