

By: Representative Vaught

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO HONOR THE HORATIO SCHOOL DISTRICT FUTURE FARMERS
OF AMERICA FOR ITS 2025 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WIN AND
TO HONOR EDUCATOR AND ADVISOR NICKI LITCHFORD.

Subtitle

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FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA FOR ITS 2025
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WIN AND TO HONOR
EDUCATOR AND ADVISOR NICKI LITCHFORD.

WHEREAS, the Horatio School District Future Farmers of America's livestock judging team became national champions for the first time at the National Western Stock Show competition in Denver, Colorado, on January 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Horatio School District Future Farmers of America livestock judging team consisted of students Layla Tallant, Konnor Bailey, Jake Sawyer, and Olivia Frady, coached by educator and advisor Nicki Litchford; and

WHEREAS, the Horatio School District Future Farmers of America consistently place highly in state and national Future Farmers of America competitions, and have been Arkansas state champions many times in the past; and

WHEREAS, Horatio School District Future Farmers of America advisor Nicki Litchford said of the team, "Our motto with the chapter when I started



was 'Leave a Legacy of Impact', and that has been my goal and objective with all of the kids who come in and out of my classroom every single day. I want them to be equipped to leave that legacy"; and

WHEREAS, the Horatio School District Future Farmers of America unfailingly represent their district and the State of Arkansas with distinction and pride; and

WHEREAS, educator and Horatio School District Future Farmers of America advisor Nicki Litchford has been an educator for sixteen (16) years and the Future Farmers of America advisor at the Horatio School District for thirteen (13) years; and

WHEREAS, Horatio School District superintendent Gayla Youngblood said of Nicki Litchford, "Nicki is a dedicated and very passionate educator who inspires students and fosters their love for agriculture, leadership, and service. She takes our students all over Arkansas and the United States to help them compete and showcase skills, developing very valuable opportunities that help those students for a lifetime. Our district and community are very blessed to have her be part of our team"; and

WHEREAS, Nicki Litchford's father was also the Future Farmers of America advisor at the Horatio School District, and regarding this, superintendent Gayla Youngblood said, "We have quite a legacy here at Horatio thanks to Nicki and her father. She is honestly an invaluable part of our district here at Horatio. She's a top-notch person as well as an educator, always going above and beyond for her students to give them opportunities and experiences; she makes it happen for them. Nicki is very well known in our area"; and

WHEREAS, superintendent Gayla Youngblood said of the Horatio School District Future Farmers of America's consistent top placement in competitions at both the state and national levels, "We're a small school, but when Horatio shows up to compete, people notice. Nicki is the top reason for this for so many reasons; she is all in. She has a big heart, and I consider her a colleague but also a friend. She treats her students as if they are her own

children and has high expectations for them and holds them accountable for their choices. They represent us proudly here in Arkansas and nationally. I am professionally and personally blessed to know her",

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 honor the Horatio School District Future Farmers of America and educator and advisor Nicki Litchford for consistently representing Arkansas to the nation with excellence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to Nicki Litchford by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.