

By: Senator Hester

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE, SUPPORT, AND ENCOURAGE THE ARKANSAS 250 COMMISSION AS IT BEGINS ITS WORK TO CELEBRATE ARKANSAS'S RICH TWO-HUNDRED-FIFTY-YEAR HISTORY FROM THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE ON JULY 4, 1776, THROUGH JULY 4, 2026.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE, SUPPORT, AND ENCOURAGE THE ARKANSAS 250 COMMISSION AS IT BEGINS ITS WORK TO CELEBRATE ARKANSAS'S RICH TWO-HUNDRED-FIFTY-YEAR HISTORY FROM THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE THROUGH JULY 4, 2026.

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America will celebrate the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress established the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, which is working with America250.org, Inc., to plan and orchestrate this great occasion, and the United States Congress is encouraging states to join and participate in this celebration of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders created the Arkansas 250 Commission to plan, organize, and coordinate Arkansas's celebration activities and events leading up to and on July 4, 2026; and



WHEREAS, Arkansas and the territory that preceded it have a rich two-hundred-fifty-year history to commemorate; and

WHEREAS, in 1776, Arkansas was part of the Louisiana Territory and home to Native Americans and early European settlers; and

WHEREAS, in 1783, a Revolutionary War battle was fought at Arkansas Post; and

WHEREAS, in 1803, the land that would become Arkansas officially became a part of the United States of America via the acquisition known as the Louisiana Purchase; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas officially became a territory of the United States of America in 1819 and achieved statehood in 1836; and

WHEREAS, in the one hundred eighty-nine (189) years since achieving statehood, Arkansas has played a part in the history of our great nation and is rich with stories to tell, legends to recognize, and achievements to celebrate; and

WHEREAS, this semiquincentennial event is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to engage children, students, and adults in educational activities, civic engagement, and public service opportunities,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate recognize, support, and encourage the Arkansas 250 Commission as it begins its work to celebrate Arkansas's rich two-hundred-fifty-year history from the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, through July 4, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Senate encourage all educational

institutions, civic organizations, and all of Arkansas to join this celebration of our state's magnificent history and achievements in a series of events and activities that will culminate on July 4, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to each of the fifteen (15) members of the Arkansas 250 Commission by the Secretary of the Senate.