

By: Senator Dees

## SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS AS RECIPIENT  
IN 2024 OF A VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARD  
AND THE MOST INNOVATIVE CITY AWARD BY ENGAGE  
ARKANSAS, THE FLOODPLAIN COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARD  
BY THE ARKANSAS FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION,  
INC., AND A TRENDSETTER CITY AWARD BY ARKANSAS  
BUSINESS.

### Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE THE CITY OF SILOAM SPRINGS  
AS RECIPIENT IN 2024 OF A VOLUNTEER  
COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARD, THE MOST  
INNOVATIVE CITY AWARD, THE FLOODPLAIN  
COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AWARD, AND A  
TRENDSETTER CITY AWARD.

WHEREAS, Siloam Springs was recognized by Engage Arkansas as one of its  
2024 Volunteer Communities of the Year and was specifically recognized as the  
2024 Most Innovative City in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Engage Arkansas is an Arkansas initiative to inspire and  
advance civic engagement to help combat social inequities and strengthen  
local communities, and its award to Siloam Springs highlights the dedication  
and spirit of the city's residents, businesses, and organizations that come  
together to make a lasting impact on Siloam Springs; and

WHEREAS, Siloam Springs was recognized by the Arkansas Floodplain



Management Association, Inc., as the Floodplain Community of the Year for its excellence in floodplain administration; and

WHEREAS, Senior Building Inspector Randal Clark serves as Floodplain Administrator for Siloam Springs, overseeing the Flood Damage Prevention Code and ensuring compliance with National Flood Insurance Program requirements; and

WHEREAS, Siloam Springs was recognized by Arkansas Business as a Trendsetter City, an award which highlights cities and towns across Arkansas whose innovative initiatives for community development and economic growth inspire change and make a difference in the State of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, Siloam Springs was recognized in two (2) Trendsetter City categories, one (1) of which merited an Honorable Mention for Siloam Springs in Infrastructure and Water, and one (1) of which merited Winner status in Public Works Environmental and Green Management; and

WHEREAS, Siloam Springs was featured in the December 16, 2024, edition of Arkansas Business, and will be further celebrated at the Arkansas Municipal League's annual Winter Meeting in January 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Business recognitions for Siloam Springs highlight the city's commitment to visionary leadership, resident engagement, and progressive growth strategies, placing the city among Arkansas's most pioneering communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, Siloam Springs launched "Love Siloam" as a community-driven program dedicated to growing the city through service, sharing meals, and creating memorable experiences; and

WHEREAS, "Love Siloam" brought together businesses, nonprofits, and individuals for a day of service including cleaning a creek, building ramps, picking up litter, folding clothes for donation, and more; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Siloam Springs is a valuable partner to

Siloam Springs by serving the needs of the community and raising money for local projects; and

WHEREAS, the Rotary Club of Siloam Springs participated in "Love Siloam" by volunteering at the Rotary Healing Garden and providing support to the Siloam Springs Elementary School and other beneficial organizations such as Into the Light; and

WHEREAS, the Kiwanis Club of Siloam Springs was instrumental in Siloam Springs receiving the awards from Engage Arkansas because the club focuses on community initiatives and child-centered projects, striving to uplift local children by fostering growth and empowerment designed to lead to a brighter future for the children of Siloam Springs; and

WHEREAS, the Kiwanis Club of Siloam Springs holds various fundraisers throughout the year to fund scholarships for local high school seniors and to provide funds to area nonprofit organizations including the Boys and Girls Club of Western Benton County, the Manna Center, and the Genesis House; and

WHEREAS, Kind at Heart Ministries of Siloam Springs provides much-needed services to the senior community in Siloam Springs by partnering with Siloam Springs High School, whose students provided over three hundred (300) volunteer hours raising garden beds, extending a chicken coop, and completing a wheelchair ramp; and

WHEREAS, Kind at Heart Ministries sponsors seniors during the holiday season to ensure many seniors do not spend the holidays alone, and also assists homebound seniors, helping those seniors to maintain their independence for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, the Western Benton County Partnership is an organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the growth and prosperity of communities in western Benton County, including Siloam Springs; and

WHEREAS, the support provided by the Western Benton County Partnership includes enhancing in-home childcare services, raising over one hundred

twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) for tornado relief in western Benton County, and understanding that by working together across boundaries, a community can leverage its collective strengths, knowledge, and resources to accomplish goals that none could achieve alone; and

WHEREAS, in Siloam Springs there is a deep understanding that by supporting all within the community, all residents of Siloam Springs thrive and prosper not only for the benefit of Siloam Springs but also for the State of Arkansas,

NOW THEREFORE,

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

THAT the Senate recognize the city of Siloam Springs as recipient in 2024 of a Volunteer Community of the Year award and the Most Innovative City award by Engage Arkansas, the Floodplain Community of the Year award by the Arkansas Floodplain Management Association, Inc., and a Trendsetter City award by Arkansas Business.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided to Siloam Springs Mayor Judy Nation by the Secretary of the Senate.