

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017

SR 2

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5 By: Senators J. Cooper, B. Johnson, Caldwell, D. Wallace, K. Ingram

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO CONGRATULATE THE ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY RED  
9 WOLVES FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE SUN BELT  
10 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP AND THE AUTONATION CURE BOWL.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO CONGRATULATE THE ARKANSAS STATE  
15 UNIVERSITY RED WOLVES FOOTBALL TEAM FOR  
16 WINNING THE SUN BELT CONFERENCE  
17 CHAMPIONSHIP AND THE AUTONATION CURE  
18 BOWL.

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21 WHEREAS, the Arkansas State University Red Wolves football team won the  
22 2016 Sun Belt Conference Championship for a 2nd straight year; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, the Red Wolves became the only FBS program in the nation to  
25 win 5 conference titles over the last 6 seasons; and

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27 WHEREAS, the Red Wolves defeated the University of Central Florida on  
28 December 17, 2016, in Orlando with a final score of 31-13 in the AutoNation  
29 Cure Bowl; and

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31 WHEREAS, the team ended the 2016 season by winning 8 of its last 9  
32 games to post an 8-5 overall record; and

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34 WHEREAS, Arkansas State became 1 of just 2 programs in history to win 5  
35 Sun Belt Conference championships; and

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1           WHEREAS, Arkansas State made a school record with a 6th consecutive  
2 bowl game appearance; and

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4           WHEREAS, junior defensive end Ja’Von Rolland-Jones was named the Sun  
5 Belt Conference Most Valuable Player and broke the conference records for  
6 single season and career sacks; and

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8           WHEREAS, senior wide receiver Kendall Sanders was named the AutoNation  
9 Cure Bowl Most Valuable Player after tying the school record for touchdowns  
10 scored in postseason game; and

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12           WHEREAS, in 11 of the last 14 years, including 2015, the Red Wolves  
13 football team has won the Sun Belt Conference Team Academic Award; and

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15           WHEREAS, the Red Wolves claimed a 35-3 victory over then-ranked No. 25  
16 Troy State on November 17, 2016, to claim their 2nd win over a Top 25 team  
17 since joining the FBS in 1992; and

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19           WHEREAS, the Red Wolves put together its 6th consecutive winning season  
20 for the 1st time since 1917; and

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22           WHEREAS, Blake Anderson, born in Jonesboro, led Arkansas State as head  
23 coach and now has the most wins of any head coach in school history over his  
24 first 3 seasons at the school; and

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26           WHEREAS, the Red Wolves led the nation in tackles for loss; and

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28           WHEREAS, Arkansas State posted its 12th consecutive season with a  
29 winning record at Centennial Bank Stadium; and

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31           WHEREAS, the Red Wolves’ 8 wins gave the program 52 victories over the  
32 last 6 seasons to rank as the 23rd-highest in the nation over that span; and

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34           WHEREAS, 16 players who have already earned their degrees from Arkansas  
35 State University competed in the AutoNation Cure Bowl; and

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