

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023

HMR 1005

4
5 By: Representative Lundstrum

6
7 **HOUSE MEMORIAL RESOLUTION**

8 TO REMEMBER BRENDA JOYCE BLAGG AND TO HONOR HER
9 DEDICATION TO JOURNALISM, THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
10 ACT OF 1967 IN ARKANSAS, AND THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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13 **Subtitle**

14 TO REMEMBER BRENDA JOYCE BLAGG AND TO
15 HONOR HER DEDICATION TO JOURNALISM, THE
16 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT OF 1967, AND
17 THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

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19 WHEREAS, Brenda Joyce Blagg of Fayetteville, Arkansas, died on December
20 14, 2022, at the age of seventy-five (75), and was a well-known Arkansas
21 journalist and defender of the Freedom of Information Act of 1967; and

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23 WHEREAS, Ms. Blagg, was born, May 3, 1947, and as a native of Newport,
24 Arkansas, came to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville to study
25 journalism and rose to the editorship of the Arkansas Traveler, the campus
26 newspaper; and

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28 WHEREAS, Ms. Blagg, upon graduation, joined the Springdale News and
29 began a lengthy career as a journalist; and

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31 WHEREAS, in 1979, Ms. Blagg began a political column, "Between The
32 Lines," which ran until her health declined in October 2022 and this column
33 was one of the longest, continuous weekly columns in the state's modern
34 history; and

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36 WHEREAS, Ms. Blagg was also a frequent guest journalist on the Arkansas



1 Educational Television Network's "Arkansas Week", for decades; and

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3 WHEREAS, Ms. Blagg took a great interest in the Northwest Arkansas
4 Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and its subsequent
5 scholarship fundraiser variety show, "Gridiron", a yearly theatrical
6 production spoofing the past year's political leaders, events, and general
7 politics of the state; and

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9 WHEREAS, Ms. Blagg played a well-known Ozark hill woman, Letitia Mae
10 Stufflebeam, in these standup comedy sketches spoofing the political themes
11 of the day, which are still playing on YouTube channels today; and

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13 WHEREAS, Ms. Blagg was also known as a quiet and serious soul,
14 attending to the public needs of the state and region and she is credited by
15 many for inspiring others, especially young women to pursue careers in
16 journalism and to uphold the Freedom of Information Act of 1967,

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18 NOW THEREFORE,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL
21 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 THAT the House of Representatives remember Brenda Joyce Blagg and honor
23 her life and contributions to the State of Arkansas.

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be provided
26 to Ms. Blagg's family by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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