

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021

HR 1039

4  
5 By: Representative Deffenbaugh

6  
7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE CLIFF HARRIS FOR HIS UPCOMING INDUCTION  
9 INTO THE PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME.

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12 **Subtitle**

13 TO RECOGNIZE CLIFF HARRIS FOR HIS  
14 UPCOMING INDUCTION INTO THE PROFESSIONAL  
15 FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME.

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18 WHEREAS, Mr. Cliff Harris will be inducted into the Professional  
19 Football Hall of Fame in August 2021 and will be only the eighth Arkansan to  
20 be inducted into the prestigious club; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris was born in Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 1948, and  
23 began his football career as a starter for Hot Springs High School as a  
24 junior before transferring and finishing at Des Arc High School, where he led  
25 the team to an undefeated season before graduating in 1966; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris continued his football career by accepting a  
28 scholarship at Ouachita Baptist University, his only offer, where he was a  
29 stellar defensive back and named to the All-AIC team for his last two (2)  
30 years of college; and

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32 WHEREAS, because of his speed, intensity, and savage tackling, Mr.  
33 Harris drew attention from several professional football teams across the  
34 country, ultimately being offered and agreeing to a contract with the Dallas  
35 Cowboys for a five-hundred-dollar signing bonus, a starting salary of  
36 thirteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$13,500), a second-year salary of



1 fifteen thousand five hundred dollars (\$15,500), and a third-year salary of  
2 seventeen thousand five hundred dollars (\$17,500); and

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4 WHEREAS, the deal with Dallas turned out be quite the bargain for the  
5 team, as the investment paid off quickly – Mr. Harris was the starting safety  
6 for ten (10) years with the Cowboys, was dubbed "Captain Crash" by his  
7 teammates, and was one (1) of Dallas's all-time greats; and

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9 WHEREAS, Mr. Harris appeared in five (5) Super Bowls, was selected to  
10 six (6) consecutive Pro Bowls, was a four-time first team All-Pro, and was a  
11 member of the All-Decade Team in 1970; and

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13 WHEREAS, in addition to the upcoming induction into the Professional  
14 Football Hall of Fame, Mr. Harris has been inducted into other athletic halls  
15 of fame, including the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, the Arkansas Sports Hall of  
16 Fame, the NAIA Hall of Fame, and the Ouachita Athletics Hall of Fame; and

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18 WHEREAS, the culmination of his illustrious career was the naming of  
19 Ouachita Baptist University football stadium as the Cliff Harris Stadium,

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21 NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL  
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 THAT the House of Representatives congratulate Mr. Cliff Harris on his  
26 career and his upcoming induction into the Professional Football Hall of  
27 Fame.

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of the resolution be  
30 provided to Mr. Cliff Harris by the Chief Clerk of the House of  
31 Representatives.