

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 601

5 By: Senators Elliott, Bond, L. Chesterfield, S. Flowers
6 By: Representatives Love, F. Allen, Blake, A. Collins, K. Ferguson, Fielding, V. Flowers, Glover, M.
7 Hodges, Murdock, Nicks, Richardson, Scott, Walker
8

For An Act To Be Entitled

9
10 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE AND EXPEDITE NECESSARY
11 IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LITTLE ROCK NINE MEMORIAL ON THE
12 STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS; TO GRANT AUTHORITY THE
13 SECRETARY OF STATE TO CORRECT A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR
14 ON A PLAQUE ACCOMPANYING THE LITTLE ROCK NINE
15 MEMORIAL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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19 TO AUTHORIZE AND EXPEDITE NECESSARY
20 IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LITTLE ROCK NINE
21 MEMORIAL ON THE STATE CAPITOL GROUNDS.
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The General Assembly
27 finds that:

28 (a) The Little Rock Nine memorial on the State Capitol grounds bears a
29 plaque that states:

“TESTAMENT”

CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIAL

SCULPTURE OF THE LITTLE ROCK NINE

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34 Facing law and social custom that defined them as second tier citizens, the
35 Little Rock Nine, taking their cue from the ever expanding struggle for civil
36 rights, opted to define themselves quite differently. With the help of



1 stalwart parents, other family members and those in the community who shared
2 their vision, this group of young people came to understand the reality of
3 their time, but chose to believe in a reality yet to come. It was, in part,
4 this focus that allowed them to suffer the indignities heaped upon them by
5 those who firmly believed in the laws of equality. With the support of
6 countless others around the globe, and especially the guidance of L.C. and
7 Daisy Bates, the Little Rock Nine walked through the doors of Central High
8 School. Their act of courage opened doors symbolically all over segregated
9 America.

11 SCULPTORS:

12 DEERING, SCALLION AND DEERING

13 STUDIO

15 LEGISLATIVE SPONSORS:

16 SENATOR TRACY STEELE

17 SENATOR IRMA HUNTER BROWN

FUNDING BY:

LITTLE ROCK NINE FOUNDATION

WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION

83RD, 84TH, 85TH GENERAL

ASSEMBLIES OF THE ARKANSAS

LEGISLATURE

19 SECRETARY OF STATE CHARLIE DANIELS

20 GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE

22 (b)(1) This plaque contains a typographical error.

23 (2) The sentence that reads “It was, in part, this focus that
24 allowed them to suffer the indignities heaped upon them by those who firmly
25 believed in the laws of equality.” should read as follows:

26 “It was, in part, this focus that allowed them to suffer the
27 indignities heaped upon them by those who firmly believed in the laws of
28 inequality.”

30 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Temporary Language.

31 (a)(1) The Secretary of State shall replace, reconstruct, or revise
32 the plaque to read as follows:

33 “TESTAMENT”

34 CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIAL

35 SCULPTURE OF THE LITTLE ROCK NINE

1 Facing law and social custom that defined them as second tier citizens, the
2 Little Rock Nine, taking their cue from the ever expanding struggle for civil
3 rights, opted to define themselves quite differently. With the help of
4 stalwart parents, other family members and those in the community who shared
5 their vision, this group of young people came to understand the reality of
6 their time, but chose to believe in a reality yet to come. It was, in part,
7 this focus that allowed them to suffer the indignities heaped upon them by
8 those who firmly believed in the laws of inequality. With the support of
9 countless others around the globe, and especially the guidance of L.C. and
10 Daisy Bates, the Little Rock Nine walked through the doors of Central High
11 School. Their act of courage opened doors symbolically all over segregated
12 America.

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14 SCULPTORS:
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LEGISLATURE

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22 SECRETARY OF STATE CHARLIE DANIELS
23 GOVERNOR MIKE HUCKABEE
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25 (2) The Secretary of State shall revise the phrase that
26 currently reads “the indignities heaped upon them by those who firmly
27 believed in the laws of equality.” to read “the indignities heaped upon them
28 by those who firmly believed in the laws of inequality.”

29 (b) The Secretary of State shall:

30 (1) Make any improvements necessary to make the language edit
31 required under this act;

32 (2) Enter into contracts and agreements necessary to effectuate
33 the requirements of this act; and

34 (3) Solicit funds in furtherance the purposes of this act.

35 (c)(1) The Secretary of State shall approve the design and materials
36 used in furtherance of this section.

1 (2) However, the design and materials shall be as similar to the
2 design and materials used in the remainder of the memorial as necessary to
3 effectuate a seamless design that is as close to the original as possible.

4 (d) The Capitol Arts and Grounds Commission shall assist the Secretary
5 of State to facilitate the process upon request by the Secretary of State.

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