

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1553

5 By: Representative Penzo
6 By: Senator L. Eads
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY IN
10 ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

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14 TO CREATE THE NATIONAL DAY OF THE COWBOY
15 IN ARKANSAS.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 1, Chapter 5, Subchapter 1, is amended
21 to add an additional section to read as follows:

22 1-5-117. National Day of the Cowboy.

23 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

24 (1) Pioneering men and women helped build the nation with their
25 ranches and farms, and livestock and agriculture play a vital role in the
26 economic well-being of Arkansas communities;

27 (2) The quintessential cowboy and cowgirl play a significant
28 role in American culture, and embody integrity, respect, a strong work ethic,
29 and patriotism, known as the cowboy code;

30 (3) The vaquero spirit of competition among ranch cowboys and
31 cowgirls is reflected in rodeo events throughout the state that contribute to
32 tourism and the economy;

33 (4) Many statewide organizations recognize and encourage young
34 cowboys and cowgirls to be excellent stewards of the land and to preserve
35 this foundation of American heritage;

36 (5) Arkansas is the birthplace of two (2) cowboy film icons,



1 Maxwell Henry Aronson, who was born in Little Rock, became the actor "Bronco
2 Billy" Anderson and was the first cowboy superstar, starring in over three
3 hundred (300) movies and paving the way for other famous cowboy actors, and
4 Betty Jeanne Grayson, also born in Little Rock, became actress Gail Davis and
5 inspired young cowgirls as "Annie Oakley" in the 1950's television series of
6 the same name; and

7 (6) Many states have declared an annual day to commemorate
8 cowboys.

9 (b) The fourth Saturday in July shall be known as "National Day of the
10 Cowboy" to commemorate America's cowboy heritage.

11 (c) National Day of the Cowboy is not a legal holiday but is a
12 memorial day to be commemorated by the issuance of an appropriate
13 proclamation by the Governor.

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