

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025

HR 1050

4
5 By: Representative R. Scott Richardson
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8 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

9 TO RECOGNIZE OPEN AVENUES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY FOR
10 ITS SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO PEOPLE WITH
11 DISABILITIES IN NORTHWEST ARKANSAS.
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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO RECOGNIZE OPEN AVENUES ON ITS 50TH
16 ANNIVERSARY FOR ITS SERVICE AND
17 DEDICATION TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
18 IN NORTHWEST ARKANSAS.
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20 WHEREAS, Open Avenues has been providing employment opportunities and
21 programs for people with disabilities in Northwest Arkansas since 1975; and
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23 WHEREAS, Open Avenues believes people with disabilities are a vital
24 part of our communities, and their programs are focused on meeting people
25 where they are and empowering them to achieve personal and vocational goals;
26 and
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28 WHEREAS, Open Avenues achieves its goals through prevocational training
29 and job placement via its onsite training center and classroom, community
30 employment, and transportation services; and
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32 WHEREAS, the training center at Open Avenues is a respected example of
33 an employment and learning environment for people with disabilities, and this
34 is made possible by support from business and industrial partners who
35 outsource packaging and assembly work to meet production needs; and
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1 WHEREAS, the classroom program at Open Avenues focuses on building
2 skills based on daily living, socialization, and self-help, and participants
3 are instructed and guided through building these skills in order to prepare
4 for transition into the training center and living more independent lives;
5 and

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7 WHEREAS, the community employment program at Open Avenues offers job
8 placement, supported employment, and employee-first career pathways, and
9 through this program, clients receive a career plan and support tailored to
10 suit their individual needs; and

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12 WHEREAS, transportation is one of the biggest barriers people with
13 disabilities face in achieving community inclusion, so the Open Avenues fleet
14 of buses travels throughout Benton County and parts of Washington County to
15 transport participants between their homes and the Open Avenues facility; and

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17 WHEREAS, Open Avenues serves over one hundred (100) participants daily,
18 and seventy percent (70%) of participants use the Open Avenues fleet of
19 buses,

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21 NOW THEREFORE,

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

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25 THAT the House of Representatives recognize Open Avenues for fifty (50)
26 years of service and dedication to people with disabilities in northwest
27 Arkansas.

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