

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 52nd Legislature (2009)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1013

By: Armes

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution memorializing Congress and
8 the President of the United States to ensure that the
9 Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge will remain open
10 with full access to recreational opportunities; and
11 directing distribution.

12 WHEREAS, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge located twenty
13 miles northwest of Lawton, Oklahoma, has been officially designated
14 as a wildlife refuge since 1936; and

15 WHEREAS, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is the only
16 national wildlife area in Oklahoma which offers an array of
17 recreational activities including camping, hiking, auto and bike
18 tours, rock climbing, elk hunting and fishing; and

19 WHEREAS, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge also holds Mount
20 Scott, one of Oklahoma's most prominent mountains and legendary
21 sites, which boasts many tales of ancient spirits, Spanish gold and
22 buried outlaw loot; and

23 WHEREAS, the Holy City of the Wichita's Easter service, the
24 longest running passion play in the United States, has been

1 presented annually since 1926 in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife
2 Refuge; and

3 WHEREAS, because of the variety and number of attractions, the
4 Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge draws 1,000,000 visitors annually;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Oklahomans are concerned and sensitive to the needs to
7 assess and determine the impact of public demands on the Wichita
8 Mountains Wildlife Refuge with relation to preserving game animals
9 and bird habitats and breeding grounds; and

10 WHEREAS, this concern and sensitivity was molded and forged due
11 to the availability of and accessibility to state and national parks
12 by Oklahomans; and

13 WHEREAS, the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is an integral
14 part of Oklahoma's heritage and a key link in maintaining Oklahoma's
15 close relationship with the land and wildlife resources of this
16 state; and

17 WHEREAS, the continued accessibility and availability of the
18 Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge to the people of Oklahoma as well
19 as visitors to this state are of great importance to this state.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
21 OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
22 CONCURRING THEREIN:

23 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature memorializes the Congress of
24 the United States and the President of the United States to ensure

1 that the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge is allowed to remain open
2 with full access and availability to recreational opportunities now
3 currently existing within the wildlife refuge.

4 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to each member of
5 the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation, to the President of the
6 United States and to the Secretary of the Department of the
7 Interior.

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9 52-1-7338 CJB 03/11/09

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