



# Arkansas House Newsletter

July 2, 2026

## Celebrating 250 Years

There is something special about the Fourth of July in Arkansas.

It's neighbors gathering for backyard cookouts, veterans leading hometown parades, kids chasing sparklers, and families proudly flying the American flag. These traditions remind us that Independence Day is about more than celebrating our nation's birthday. It's about celebrating the freedoms we share as Americans.

Two hundred fifty years ago, our Founding Fathers declared that government gets its power from the people, not the other way around. That bold idea changed history. It became the foundation of our country and remains at the heart of our democracy today. Sometimes it's easy to think government only happens in Washington. But the American experiment is alive and well right here in Arkansas. Every time someone calls a legislator, attends a committee meeting, speaks during public testimony, or simply learns more about an issue affecting their community, they are taking part in self-government just as our founders intended.

The Arkansas House of Representatives is committed to making that participation easier. Committee meetings are open to the public. Every bill is available online. Meetings are livestreamed so anyone can follow the work of their elected officials from anywhere in the state. When citizens stay informed and get involved, our representative government works better. As America begins celebrating its 250th anniversary, this Independence Day is a good reminder that freedom isn't something we can take for granted. Every generation has a responsibility to protect it by staying informed, serving their communities, and making their voices heard. This Fourth of July, as fireworks fill the Arkansas sky, let's celebrate not only the birth of our nation but also the enduring promise that government belongs to the people. That promise has carried our country forward for nearly 250 years, and it will continue to do so, one engaged citizen at a time.