

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Senator Jewell**

S.C.R.

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7 **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

8 TO DIRECT THE ARKANSAS ADULT PROBATION COMMISSION TO
9 COORDINATE EFFORTS WITH ARKANSAS CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
10 ENTITIES AND THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ADULT LITERACY
11 FOR THE PURPOSE OF UTILIZING EDUCATION AS AN ALTERNATIVE
12 TO INCARCERATION OF LOW RISK OFFENDERS OF NON-VIOLENT
13 CRIMES.

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15 WHEREAS, the growing prison population and the financial burden it
16 imposes upon the state is impairing the state's effort to provide adequate
17 support for other state services, including Human Services and education,
18 itself a deterrent to crime; and

19 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Adult Probation Commission is mandated under Act
20 151 of 1983 to cooperate with governmental agencies of Arkansas and with
21 political subdivisions of Arkansas to improve probation services; and

22 WHEREAS, improvement of literacy skills is essential to employability,
23 rehabilitation and productive citizenship; and

24 WHEREAS, a coordinated effort of criminal justice system entities, the
25 Governor's Commission on Adult Literacy and the Department of Education is a
26 necessary linkage to insure educational benefits to convicted low risk
27 offenders in order to enhance their opportunity for employment and productive
28 citizenship; and

29 WHEREAS, the Consortium shall implement a statewide program based on the
30 SENTENCE TO EDUCATION PROJECT which operated successfully as a pilot in
31 Jefferson County, Arkansas during 1989-90; and

32 WHEREAS, the Consortium shall serve in an advisory capacity to the
33 Director of the Arkansas Adult Probation Commission and shall consist of
34 representatives from the following: Governor's Commission on Adult Literacy,
35 general public, Arkansas Senate, Arkansas House of Representatives, Arkansas

1 Adult Probation Commission, Board of the Arkansas Department of Correction,
2 Arkansas juvenile court system, Arkansas Department of Correction, Board of
3 Pardons and Paroles, Division of Vocational and Technical Education, Private
4 Industry Council established under the Job Training Partnership Act,
5 Superintendent of the Adult Education-Sponsoring School District and the
6 Arkansas Literacy Inc.; and

7 WHEREAS, the members of the Consortium shall serve without compensation
8 with the responsibilities for advisory assistance to the Director of the
9 Arkansas Adult Probation Commission in setting goals, planning, policy
10 development, monitoring policy decisions to ensure the achievement of goals
11 and objectives and evaluation; and

12 WHEREAS, the Consortium shall form a linkage and support collaborations
13 with other community organizations, both public and private, and shall
14 interpret the project to the community. The Arkansas Adult Probation
15 Commission will serve as an applicant agent for federal, state and private
16 funds essential to facilitate the project, adopt and monitor the program
17 budget, and keep informed of project operations and protect the assets of the
18 Consortium,

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20 NOW THEREFORE,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
22 STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN:

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24 That the Arkansas Adult Probation Commission is requested to coordinate
25 efforts with the Arkansas criminal justice system entities and the Governor's
26 Commission on Adult Literacy for the purpose of improving the literacy skills
27 of low-risk offenders in the Arkansas criminal justice system.

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