

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2019-120

2
3 REQUESTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CITY, COUNTY, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS
4 STUDY THE POPULATION OF INMATES BEING HOUSED IN COUNTY JAILS, THE
5 COST OF INMATES' BEING HELD IN COUNTY JAILS, THE REIMBURSEMENT
6 RATE AVAILABLE TO COUNTY JAILS, THE REASONS BEHIND OVERCROWDING
7 IN COUNTY JAILS, AND POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM
8 OF OVERCROWDING IN COUNTY JAILS.

9
10 WHEREAS, overcrowding in county jails is an ongoing problem in the
11 criminal justice system, with more persons sentenced to the Division of
12 Correction than the division is able to house at one time; and

13
14 WHEREAS, county jails are reimbursed at approximately thirty dollars
15 (\$30.00) per day to house a person awaiting transport to the division, but
16 this amount is inadequate to fully compensate a county jail for the costs
17 associated with housing that person; and

18
19 WHEREAS, housing a person awaiting transport to the division reduces
20 the ability of a county jail to hold other persons sentenced to incarceration
21 in a county jail for misdemeanor offenses or violations, as well as the
22 ability of a county jail to house arrested persons; and

23
24 WHEREAS, the Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs is requested
25 to study the population of inmates being housed in county jails, the costs of
26 inmates' being held in county jails, the reimbursement rate available to
27 county jails, the reasons behind overcrowding in county jails, and possible
28 alternatives to address the problem of overcrowding in county jails,

29
30 NOW THEREFORE,

31 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CITY, COUNTY, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS OF
32 THE NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

33
34 THAT the House Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs study the
35 population of inmates being housed in county jails, the cost of inmates'
36 being held in county jails, the reimbursement rate available to county jails,

1 the reasons behind overcrowding in county jails, and possible alternatives to
2 address the problem of overcrowding in county jails.

3

4

5 Respectfully submitted,

6

7

8

9 Representative Justin Boyd

10 District 77

11

12

13

14

15 Prepared by: BPG/BPG

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36