

Arkansas 2032 Recommendations

Committees of Arkansas 2032 attendees focused on economic development, public health, race relations, the aging population, K-12 public education and higher education developed the following state policy recommendations. The recommendations were approved by majority vote of all of the conference attendees.

Economic Development: Market Arkansas's resources to attract businesses from outside the state and provide infrastructure resources to small businesses within the state

Economic Development: Spur economic development through education by critically examining Arkansas's state-funded scholarship and grant programs to ensure that they benefit students in the most effective way

Economic Development: Create a panel to meet with various industries and provide recommendations to help them further grow and develop

Economic Development: Ensure entrepreneurs are able to obtain financing, including development of more micro-finance opportunities

Economic Development: Identify coalitions to help bridge regional gaps that currently exist within the state and adapt strategies to encourage more regional collaboration

Public Health: Reform the school day to be a model of healthy living

Public Health: Build on current infrastructure and develop new infrastructure to encourage healthy lifestyles

Public Health: Expand the Natural State advertising brand to include health promotion to increase awareness of existing natural resources for active living

Public Health: Improve and expand continuity of care

Public Health: Research and evaluate existing health programs

Public Health: Encourage economic competition as a means to reduce insurance cost

Public Health: Foster greater accountability and quality control of existing state-funded systems

Race Relations: Create a third party oversight entity that will identify and expose racial disparities in public systems addressing disparities in sentencing in our judicial system, governmental contracts and racial profiling by individuals of authority

Race Relations: Develop an advertising campaign featuring cultural icons to address racism

Race Relations: Mandate on-campus diversity professionals and/or departments to provide preventative and responsive programming on K-12 and Higher Ed campuses

The Aging Population: Provide job/skills training for the Aging Population reentering and remaining in the workforce

The Aging Population: Utilize the Home Health Care system to facilitate independent living

The Aging Population: Reallocate resources to develop walk-in clinics to alleviate ER Visits and increase access to health care

The Aging Population: Implement Financial Literacy curricula in the public school system

K-12 public education: Prevent burnout and maintaining morale through development and implementation of new materials

K-12 public education: Use cross-curricular education and skill-based education to foster a more inclusive and holistic learning environment for students

K-12 public education: Encourage school boards to take advantage of grants that support the expansion of the EAST Initiative Core

K-12 public education: Reduce dependence on standardized testing scores for learning assessment

K-12 public education: Develop a coalition of school representatives to foster an exchange of ideas

K-12 public education: Utilize testing scores to group students based on skill level within a three-year age group

Higher Education: Extend state legislative term limits to 20 years collectively between both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Higher Education: Increase funding for career pathways programs to support both traditional and non-traditional students

Higher Education: Develop a uniform long-distance learning model that incorporates all Arkansas higher education institutions

Higher Education: Increase focus on the importance of higher education beginning in the ninth grade

Higher Education: Pass a half-cent sales tax designated specifically to higher education that supplements not supplants existing revenue

Higher Education: Increase post-grad guidance and job placement program