

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2011-202

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3 REQUESTING THAT THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND  
4 LABOR STUDY THE PROGRAM FOR CONDITIONAL RELEASE FROM THE ARKANSAS  
5 STATE HOSPITAL.

6  
7 WHEREAS, Arkansas Code § 5-2-315 authorizes the conditional release of  
8 persons who have been committed to the Arkansas State Hospital after having  
9 been found not guilty of a crime on the basis of mental disease or defect,  
10 but who are deemed to be no longer harmful to themselves or to others or to  
11 property; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, a person on conditional release from the Arkansas State  
14 Hospital allegedly rammed his vehicle into a group of Jacksonville  
15 firefighters, killing one and injuring two others; and

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17 WHEREAS, even though the person had allegedly engaged in other  
18 dangerous acts while on conditional release, apparently no action for  
19 revocation had been taken; and

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21 WHEREAS, the system appears to have fallen short in this case in:  
22 (1) Determining who should receive conditional release;  
23 (2) Overseeing persons on conditional release; and  
24 (3) Determining who should be returned from conditional release  
25 to the Arkansas State Hospital,

26  
27 NOW THEREFORE,

28 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR OF  
29 THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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31 THAT the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study the  
32 program for conditional release from the Arkansas State Hospital.

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35 Respectfully submitted,

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Representative Mark Perry

District 44

By: MGF/CDS