

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2013-166

REQUESTING THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE,  
AND LABOR STUDY THE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES  
PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, educational opportunities for students with intellectual and  
developmental disabilities are primarily limited to elementary and secondary  
education; and

WHEREAS, some institutions of higher education have identified and  
developed programs for students with intellectual and developmental  
disabilities that target the needs and abilities of these students; and

WHEREAS, students with intellectual and developmental disabilities have  
skills and abilities that allow them to successfully participate in programs  
at institutions of higher education after graduating or exiting high school;  
and

WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas has developed a program for  
students with intellectual and developmental disabilities who have graduated  
or exited high school called Project Launch; and

WHEREAS, Project Launch is a program that allows students to experience  
college life, such as having a class on campus, using campus facilities,  
eating in dining halls, and engaging with the college community; and

WHEREAS, the Project Launch program focuses on independent living  
skills, social skills development, and employment opportunities for students  
enrolled in the program; and

WHEREAS, programs such as Project Launch at the University of Arkansas  
are critical in preparing students with intellectual and developmental  
disabilities for life after school is completed; and

1           WHEREAS, institutions of higher education should be encouraged to  
2 develop and maintain programs similar to Project Launch for students with  
3 intellectual and developmental disabilities,  
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5 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND  
6 LABOR OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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8           THAT the Interim House Committee On Public Health, Welfare And Labor  
9 study the postsecondary educational opportunities provided to students with  
10 intellectual and developmental disabilities at institutions of higher  
11 education; and  
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13           THAT the Interim House Committee on Public Health, Welfare And Labor  
14 extend an invitation to the House Committee on Education to participate in  
15 the study.  
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18 Respectfully submitted,  
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22 Representative Mary Broadaway  
23 District 57  
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26 By: SAG/KFW  
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