ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Senator Jimmy Jeffress Senate Chair Representative Bill Abernathy House Chair

November 1, 2010

Senator Robert W. "Bob" Johnson President Pro Tempore Arkansas Senate Room 320, State Capitol Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Representative Robbie Wills Speaker of the House Arkansas House of Representatives Room 350, State Capitol Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: A REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE 2010 INTERIM STUDY ON EDUCATIONAL ADEQUACY (ACT 57 OF THE SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF 2003 AND ACT 1204 OF 2007)

Dear President Johnson and Speaker Wills:

The House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education, pursuant to the provisions of Arkansas Code Annotated 10-3-2101 et seq., are pleased to submit their revised report on the legislative hearings held for the purpose of completing the 2010 interim study on the adequacy of the state's system of public education. As originally filed on September 1, 2010, the 2010 Adequacy Report consisted of two (2) volumes. Volume 1 contained the initial findings and recommendations of the House and Senate Interim Committees on Education. Volume 2 contained copies of all materials presented to the Adequacy Subcommittee and the Education Committees for this adequacy review.

As you will see in revised Volume 1, the Committees made the following additional recommendations concerning educational adequacy:

- A 2.0% to 2.4% cost-of-living adjustment to all items in the funding matrix and to all categorical funds for the 2011-13 biennium (FY2012 and FY2013); and
- Changing the statutory date for submission of the Adequacy Report required by Arkansas Code Annotated 10-3-2104(a) from September 1 to November 1 of each year prior to the convening of a regular session to better align the filing of the Adequacy Report with the state's budgetary process.

As you review this report, please keep in mind that it is not a static document, but one that is subject to revision or modification by the Education Committees as the situation warrants and as provided for by statute.

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The members of the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education look forward to working with you, the members of the 87th General Assembly, and the incoming members of the 88th General Assembly to ensure the continued adequacy of our state's system of public education.

Sincerely,

Senator Jimmy Jeffress

Chair

Senate Interim Committee on Education

Representative Bill Abernathy

Chair

House Interim Committee on Education

cc: The Honorable Mike Beebe, Governor, State of Arkansas