

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1258

5 By: Representatives Pitsch, Baltz, D. Douglas, Hickerson, Jean, Sturch, Wardlaw  
6 By: Senator Files  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO RE-ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON  
10 INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO RE-ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE TASK  
16 FORCE ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND  
17 COMMERCE.  
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Task Force on Intermodal  
23 Transportation and Commerce.

24 (a) The Legislative Task Force on Intermodal Transportation and  
25 Commerce is re-established.

26 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members who shall be  
27 appointed by July 1, 2015:

28 (1) One (1) member of the Senate to be appointed as co-chair of  
29 the task force by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

30 (2) One (1) member of the House of Representatives to be  
31 appointed as co-chair of the task force by the Speaker of the House of  
32 Representatives;

33 (3) Two (2) current or past members of the House Committee on  
34 Public Transportation to be appointed by the Chair of the House Committee on  
35 Public Transportation;

36 (4) Two (2) current or past members of the Senate Committee on



1 Public Transportation, Technology, and Legislative Affairs to be appointed by  
2 the Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Transportation, Technology, and  
3 Legislative Affairs;

4 (5) Two (2) members of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Port Operators  
5 Association, one (1) to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
6 Representatives and one (1) by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

7 (6) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Waterways Commission  
8 or his or her designee;

9 (7) The Director of Highways and Transportation of the Arkansas  
10 State Highway and Transportation Department or his or her designee;

11 (8) The Commissioner of State Lands or his or her designee;

12 (9) A representative of the Arkansas Trucking Association to be  
13 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

14 (10) A representative of the railroad industry to be appointed  
15 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

16 (11) Two (2) representatives of a local regional intermodal  
17 transportation authority to be appointed by the Commissioner of State Lands;

18 (12) The Director of the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics or  
19 his or her designee; and

20 (13) One (1) representative from a metropolitan planning  
21 organization in the state to be appointed by the Director of Highways and  
22 Transportation of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department.

23 (14) One (1) representative from the Arkansas Economic  
24 Development Commission to be appointed by the Executive Director of the  
25 Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

26 (c) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same manner as  
27 the initial appointment.

28 (d) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff support for  
29 the task force.

30 (e) The task force shall:

31 (1) Explore the creation of a new Arkansas Department of  
32 Transportation which will have combined responsibility for highways,  
33 waterways and ports, rail, and aeronautics;

34 (2) Explore the following specific recommendations relating to  
35 intermodal transportation and commerce for review, consideration, and  
36 implementation by the General Assembly;

1                   (A) Identify the relevant constitutional and legislative  
 2 constraints involved in the creation of a new Arkansas Department of  
 3 Transportation with regard to the constitutionally created State Highway  
 4 Commission and the existing legislatively created Arkansas Waterways  
 5 Commission and Arkansas Department of Aeronautics, and the possibility of  
 6 modal divisions;

7                   (B) Identify funding sources for a new Arkansas Department  
 8 of Transportation to promote and develop a coordinated multimodal  
 9 transportation system;

10                   (C) Develop a plan for a seamless and cost-effective  
 11 transition into the newly structured Arkansas Department of Transportation;

12                   (D) Determine the division or agency responsible for  
 13 intermodal development and oversight;

14                   (E) Establish a coordinating council for regional  
 15 intermodal transportation authorities in order to provide guidance,  
 16 oversight, and coordination and promote multimodal collaboration; and

17                   (F) Explore options to leverage existing modal assets for  
 18 development of economic opportunities; and

19                   (3) Report its findings and recommendations no later than  
 20 December 1, 2016, to the House Committee on Public Transportation and the  
 21 Senate Committee on Public Transportation, Technology, and Legislative  
 22 Affairs.

23                   (f) Legislative members of the task force shall be paid per diem and  
 24 mileage in the manner authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim  
 25 committees of the General Assembly.

26                   (g) Regular meetings will be held monthly through the term of the  
 27 existence of the task force.

28                   (h) The task force shall expire the day after reporting its findings  
 29 and recommendations under subdivision (e)(3) of this section.

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 32                   **APPROVED: 02/23/2015**