

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2021-118

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Third Extraordinary Session, 2021

A Bill

BPG/BPG
SENATE BILL

4 By: Senators K. Ingram, G. Leding
5 By: Representative Wing

6 Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council
7 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS STATE RAPID DNA
10 TECHNOLOGY, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND PRIVACY IMPROVEMENT
11 TASK FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

12 **Subtitle**

13 TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS STATE RAPID DNA
14 TECHNOLOGY, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND PRIVACY
15 IMPROVEMENT TASK FORCE.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

17 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Arkansas State Rapid DNA Technology, Public
18 Safety, and Privacy Improvement Task Force.

19 (a) There is created the Arkansas State Rapid DNA Technology, Public
20 Safety, and Privacy Improvement Task Force to consist of:

21 (1) One (1) member of the Senate to be appointed by the
22 President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

23 (2) One (1) member of the House of Representatives to be
24 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

25 (3) Two (2) members who represent the Department of Public
26 Safety to be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Public Safety
27 and which include:

28 (A) A member of the Division of Arkansas State Police; and

29 (B) An employee of the Arkansas Crime Information Center;

1 (4) One (1) member who represents the county sheriffs' offices,
2 to be appointed by the Executive Director of the Arkansas Sheriffs'
3 Association;

4 (5) One (1) member who represents the municipal police
5 departments, to be appointed by the Executive Director of the association of
6 Chiefs of Police;

7 (6) The Assistance Director of the State Crime Laboratory; and

8 (7) The State Crime Laboratory State CODIS Administrator.

9 (b)(1) The Assistant Director of the State Crime Laboratory shall
10 chair the task force and call the meetings of the task force.

11 (2) The task force shall hold its first meeting within two (2)
12 months after the effective date of this act.

13 (c) The members of the task force shall serve without compensation but
14 shall receive reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred to
15 attend meetings of the task force or any subcommittee of the task force.

16 (d) The Department of Public Safety shall provide technical and
17 administrative support as required by the task force to fulfill the task
18 force's duties.

19 (e) The task force shall:

20 (1) Determine if rapid DNA technology is beneficial to the State
21 of Arkansas and require the State Crime Laboratory to promulgate rules,
22 policies, and practices for the use of rapid DNA technology, if it is
23 determined to be appropriate, in the promotion of public safety and criminal
24 justice throughout the state while also protecting personal privacy; and

25 (2) Make recommendations regarding:

26 (A) The development and use of rapid DNA technology at
27 booking stations in the identification of offenders;

28 (B) The development and use of rapid DNA technology for
29 investigative lead testing in local criminal investigation and the potential
30 impact on backlog reduction at existing state and local crime laboratories;

31 (C) The potential of rapid DNA technology to provide quick
32 identification of discovered human remains and to provide answers during
33 times of disaster response; and

34 (D) Opportunities to improve existing privacy assurances
35 for forensic DNA testing or to add new assurances in order to maximize the

1 potential for public safety improvements while at the same time protecting
2 personal privacy.

3 (f) The task force shall report a summary of the task force's
4 activities and any recommendations for legislation to the General Assembly on
5 or before December 31, 2022.

6 (g) The task force expires on December 31, 2022.

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9 Referred by Senator K. Ingram

10 Prepared by: BPG/BPG

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