

# EXHIBIT E

## LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE

The Legislative Task Force on Intermodal Transportation and Commerce was created by Act 1430 of 2013. The 15-member task force consists of six (6) legislators and nine (9) non-legislative members representing port operators, waterways, highways, state lands, trucking, rail, and intermodal transportation authorities. The charge of the task force is to:

- Study issues relating to intermodal transportation and commerce policy for review, consideration, and implementation by the General Assembly; and
- Develop specific recommendations relating to intermodal transportation and commerce for review, consideration, and implementation by the General Assembly

The task force has held several information gathering meetings and heard presentations from various intermodal authorities. An Attorney General's opinion was requested to ascertain if a regional intermodal authority enters into a lease with a private entity under the Regional Intermodal Facilities Act, if the entity is exempt from taxes as described in A.C.A. 14-143-21. In Attorney General Opinion 2014-067, the Attorney General opined that the statutory tax exemptions under 14-143-21 do not apply to any entity other than a regional intermodal authority, irrespective of any lease or other contractual arrangement.

Discussion of issues facing intermodal transportation authorities resulted in the following findings and recommendations:

### Findings:

- Communities lacking funding revenue are unable to establish a regional intermodal transportation authority
- There is no entity authorized to make improvements to, or purchase, a rail line that is scheduled to be abandoned
- Port authorities and railroads are under the State Department of Transportation in some states
- Arkansas lacks a true department of transportation
- Loss of rural railroads in Arkansas greatly impacts economic development

### Recommendations:

A budget line item for intermodal for research and advertisement  
Explore the possibility of an economic development sales tax

## APPENDIX

### Intermodal Authorities in Arkansas

<b>Intermodal Authority</b>	<b>Participants</b>
Southeast Arkansas Regional Intermodal Facilities Authority	Bradley and Drew Counties Cities of Monticello and Warren
Northeast Arkansas Regional Intermodal Facilities Authority	Lawrence and Randolph Counties Cities of Corning, Hoxie, Pocahontas and Walnut Ridge
Western Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority	Crawford and Sebastian Counties Cities of Fort Smith and Van Buren
Southwest Arkansas Regional Intermodal Authority	Clark, Montgomery, Nevada, Pike and Dallas Counties Cities of Gurdon, Prescott, Glenwood, Caddo Valley, Murfreesboro, Arkadelphia, Amity and Fordyce
River Valley Regional Intermodal Facilities Authority	Pope County City of Russellville
Blytheville/Mississippi County Regional Intermodal Facilities Authority	Mississippi County City of Blytheville
Arkansas River Regional Intermodal Facilities Authority	Jefferson County City of Pine Bluff