

## MINUTES

### Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Reducing Poverty and Promoting Economic Opportunity

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Room 171, State Capitol  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
Tuesday, October 13, 2009  
1:30 p.m.

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The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Reducing Poverty and Promoting Economic Opportunity met at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2009, in Room 171, State Capitol, Little Rock, Arkansas. The following members attended:

**Legislative Members in attendance:** Sen. Joyce Elliott, Sen. Larry Teague, and Rep. David Rainey

**Legislative Members not in attendance:** Rep. Davy Carter

**Non-Legislative Members in attendance:** Ms. Rose Adams, Ms. Bernadette Devone, Ms. Bessie Fowler, Ms. Mary Harris, Mr. Rich Huddleston, Mr. Frederick Love, Mr. Don Munro, Ms. Rhonda Sanders, Ms. Gloria Smith, Mr. Andre Stephens and Mayor Shannon Willis

**Proxy:** Mr. Anderson for Dr. Sherece West, and

**Non-Legislative Members not in attendance:** Rev. Steve Copley, Ms. Angela Duran, Rev. Johnny Smith, Mr. Richard Smith, and Mr. Brad Williams

**Non-Committee Members in attendance:** Rep. Jody Dickinson

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Senator Elliott called the meeting to order. She introduced herself and gave opening remarks.

Senator Elliott then instructed other members to briefly introduce themselves.

Senator Elliott went over the Task Force Legislation and organization.

Mr. Huddleston nominated Senator Elliott to be the chairperson of the task force. Senator Elliott accepted and requested a co-chair.

Bernadette Devone nominated Rep. Rainey to the co-chair and Rep. Rainey declined. Rep. Rainey then nominated Mr. Huddleston for co-chair and Mr. Huddleston accepted.

Mr. Huddleston, Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, spoke about the current state of poverty in Arkansas.

A list of work groups was passed out to each member to indicate which group they would prefer to work on. The choices are to be returned to Chrissy Heider. After Senator Elliott and Mr. Huddleston review the list an e-mail will be sent out assigning members to workgroups.

Senator Elliott noted that all communication will be sent out by e-mails.

The task force research will include state employees.

The next meeting is set for November 20, 2009, at 10:30 a.m., State Capitol, Little Rock, Ark.