REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A FAST TRACK FOR ADMISSION OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES TO MEDICAL SCHOOL TO BECOME PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS.

WHEREAS, a significant difference exists in the amount and type of training received by advanced practice registered nurses and by physicians; and

WHEREAS, a pathway to receive primary care physician training should exist for those advanced practice registered nurses desiring to practice medicine; and

WHEREAS, the training that an advanced practice registered nurse receives should count toward fulfilling the admissions requirements to attend medical school and become a primary care physician; and

WHEREAS, having more primary care physicians will lead to higher quality health care for citizens of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly should pursue efforts to improve access to primary care by increasing the healthcare professional workforce,

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study the feasibility of establishing a fast track for admission of advanced practice registered nurses to medical school to become primary care physicians.

Respectfully submitted,
Senator Cecile Bledsoe
District 3

By: JMB/JMB