

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2017-082

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3 REQUESTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTAL  
4 AFFAIRS STUDY THE RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS GUARANTEED BY ARKANSAS  
5 CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE 2, TO ENSURE THAT THOSE RIGHTS ARE  
6 EFFECTIVELY AND ACTIVELY SECURED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE CITIZENS  
7 OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.  
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9 WHEREAS, Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, titled "Declaration of  
10 Rights", guarantees certain rights to citizens of the State of Arkansas; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the rights encompassed under Arkansas Constitution, Article 2,  
13 include the right of assembly and petition, the right to bear arms, the  
14 liberty of the press and of speech, and the right to a jury trial; and  
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16 WHEREAS, since its inception with the adoption of the Constitution of  
17 the State of Arkansas of 1874, Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, has  
18 undergone only one (1) amendment: Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 16,  
19 concerning the right to trial by jury and the minimum number of jurors  
20 agreeing required for a verdict, was proposed by the General Assembly during  
21 the 1927 regular session and adopted at the election on November 6, 1928; and  
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23 WHEREAS, given the critical importance of the protections offered by  
24 Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, and considering only a single amendment to  
25 that article, it is appropriate to study the provisions of Arkansas  
26 Constitution, Article 2, and ensure that the rights guaranteed by the article  
27 are effectively and actively secured to the benefit of the citizens of the  
28 state as intended,  
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30 NOW THEREFORE,

31 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTAL  
32 AFFAIRS OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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34 THAT the House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs  
35 study the rights and protections offered by Arkansas Constitution, Article 2,  
36 with particular attention to ensuring that the enumerated rights are not

1 dormant and are actively secured to the benefit and enjoyment of the citizens  
2 of the State of Arkansas.

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4 Respectfully submitted,

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8 Representative Bob Ballinger

9 District 97

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12 By: MBM/MBM

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