

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-191

REQUESTING THE HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION  
CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE SCHOOL CONSOLIDATIONS REQUIRED BY ACT 60  
OF THE SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF 2003.

WHEREAS, Act 60 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003 was enacted  
with the stated purpose of ensuring “the delivery of an equal opportunity for  
an adequate education to the people of Arkansas in an efficient and effective  
manner”; and

WHEREAS, approximately sixty (60) school districts have been  
consolidated in order to meet the requirements of Act 60; and

WHEREAS, some of these consolidations have raised serious concerns  
regarding both the fiscal and educational efficiency and effectiveness of the  
resulting school district; and

WHEREAS, there has been no systematic review of the impact of the  
mandatory consolidations on the state’s system of public education; and

WHEREAS, such a review would provide critical information to parents,  
school district patrons, educators, policymakers, and elected officials  
regarding the state’s public education system,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION OF THE  
EIGHTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House and Senate Interim Committees on Education, with the  
assistance of the Department of Education and the Division of Legislative  
Audit, conduct a systematic and comprehensive study of the school  
consolidations required by Act 60 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003  
to determine if the intent of the legislation, ensuring the delivery of an  
equal opportunity for an adequate education to the people of Arkansas in an  
efficient and effective manner, is being fulfilled and to make

1 recommendations that would address any deficiencies discovered as the result  
2 of the study.

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4 Respectfully submitted,

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8 Representative Mark Martin

9 District 87

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