

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-195

2
3 REQUESTING THAT THE HIGHER EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
4 ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY THE FUNDING OF CAPITAL
5 IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.
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7 WHEREAS, several public institutions of higher education have
8 undertaken capital improvement projects in recent years; and
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10 WHEREAS, many of these projects were one hundred percent (100%)
11 funded by student tuition and fees; and
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13 WHEREAS, these capital improvements coincide with regular
14 increases in higher education tuition; and
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16 WHEREAS, maintaining an affordable tuition level at public
17 institutions of higher education is of critical importance to the
18 future of the State of Arkansas; and
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20 WHEREAS, while Amendment 33 to the Arkansas Constitution grants
21 public institutions of higher education a certain level of autonomy, it
22 remains in the interest of the General Assembly to review these capital
23 improvement projects and their funding,
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25 NOW THEREFORE,

26 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH
27 GENERAL ASSEMBLY:
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29 THAT the Higher Education Subcommittee of the Arkansas
30 Legislative Council study certain issues associated with capital
31 improvement projects, including without limitation:

- 32 (1) The number of capital improvement projects;
33 (2) The manner in which those projects were funded;
34 (3) Whether the number of capital improvement projects is
35 increasing from year to year; and

1 (4) If so, whether that increase correlates to an increase in
2 higher education tuition.

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4 Respectfully submitted,

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8 Senator Jimmy Jeffress

9 District 24

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By: MBM/lcw