

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2011-174

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3 REQUESTING THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND COMMERCE
4 STUDY THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, FINANCING, AND OTHER OPTIONS
5 AVAILABLE TO NEEDY ARKANSANS FOR THE PAYMENT OF FUNERAL AND
6 BURIAL COSTS.

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8 WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Arkansas have been impacted by
9 the rising cost and expense of funerals and burials; and

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11 WHEREAS, funeral and burial costs have increased rapidly during the
12 past decade; and

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14 WHEREAS, the state's neediest citizens are most affected by rising
15 funeral and burial costs; and

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17 WHEREAS, unexpected funeral and burial costs coupled with the inability
18 to pay those costs needlessly exacerbates the trauma of losing a loved one;
19 and

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21 WHEREAS, even citizens with funeral and burial insurance policies often
22 find that the policies have fallen behind the pace of the rising cost of
23 funeral and burial services; and

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25 WHEREAS, states such as Illinois have developed programs to assist
26 their neediest citizens with the costs of funerals; and

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28 WHEREAS, a state-supported funeral and burial benefit fund for the
29 needy should be implemented in Arkansas,

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31 NOW THEREFORE,

32 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND COMMERCE OF
33 THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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35 THAT the Interim House Committee on Insurance and Commerce study the
36 financial assistance and financing options available to Arkansans for the

1 payment of funeral and burial costs and the establishment of a state-
2 supported benefit fund to help needy Arkansans pay for funeral and burial
3 services.

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5 Respectfully submitted,

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9 Representative Reginald Murdock

10 District 52

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12 By: ANS/ANS

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