

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2017-098

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3 REQUESTING THAT THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION STUDY FACTORS  
4 CONTRIBUTING TO THE HIGH ATTRITION RATE OF TEACHERS IN THE STATE  
5 OF ARKANSAS, TO INCLUDE WHETHER EXCESSIVE PAPERWORK REQUIRED OF  
6 TEACHERS IS ONE OF THE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS.

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8 WHEREAS, the State of Arkansas is constitutionally required to provide  
9 to students a substantially equal opportunity for an adequate education; and

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11 WHEREAS, experienced teachers are a key component in fulfilling this  
12 constitutional duty; and

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14 WHEREAS, the Final Report on the Legislative Hearings for the 2016  
15 Educational Adequacy Study of the Senate Committee on Education found that  
16 since the 2006-2007 school year, an average of thirty-six percent (36%) of  
17 new teachers do not remain in the teaching profession after five (5) years of  
18 teaching; and

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20 WHEREAS, that same report found that in a random survey of public  
21 school teachers in Arkansas, of those who reported they were currently  
22 considering leaving the profession of teaching, more than fifty-eight percent  
23 (58%) cited stress/workload as a primary reason for this consideration; and

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25 WHEREAS, excessive amounts of paperwork required of teachers may be a  
26 contributing factor of the stress/workload cited by teachers as a primary  
27 reason for considering leaving the teaching profession,

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29 NOW THEREFORE,  
30 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OF THE NINETY-FIRST  
31 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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33 THAT the Senate Committee on Education study factors contributing to  
34 the high attrition rate of teachers in the State of Arkansas, to include  
35 whether excessive paperwork required of teachers is one of the contributing  
36 factors.

1 Respectfully submitted,

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5 Senator Linda Chesterfield

6 District 30

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8 Prepared by: PIL/JLC

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