

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2017-115

2
3 REQUESTING THAT THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND
4 GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS STUDY WHETHER DUAL SERVICE AS A MAYOR AND A
5 MEMBER OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS APPROPRIATE.
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7 WHEREAS, dual service in elected or appointed offices can present
8 possible conflicts of interest and ethical concerns; and
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10 WHEREAS, while Arkansas law permits dual service in several public
11 offices, it is important to monitor those situations and ensure that dual
12 service is consistent with ethical standards and conducive to public trust;
13 and
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15 WHEREAS, dual service as a mayor and a member of a school district
16 board of directors is one specific area that could raise questions and
17 concerns; and
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19 WHEREAS, Arkansas Constitution, Article 19, § 26, provides that
20 officers of the public schools may be elected to fill any executive or
21 judicial office and is original to the 1874 Arkansas Constitution; and
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23 WHEREAS, while Article 19, § 26, appears to authorize a member of a
24 school district board of directors to serve as mayor, it does not address
25 whether a mayor may serve on a school district board of directors; and
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27 WHEREAS, given the evolving roles of mayors and members of school
28 district boards of directors, it is necessary to study the issue to determine
29 if dual service in both roles is incompatible, or otherwise inappropriate or
30 unsuitable; and
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32 WHEREAS, a study should include studying possible legislative action to
33 prohibit such dual service if it is found to be inappropriate,
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35 NOW THEREFORE,

1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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4 THAT the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs
5 study whether dual service as a mayor and a member of a school district board
6 of directors is appropriate, including without limitation whether service in
7 the two (2) roles is incompatible or otherwise presents conflicts of interest
8 that are inappropriate or could negatively affect the public trust.

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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the Senate Committee on State Agencies
11 and Governmental Affairs determines that dual service as a mayor and a member
12 of a school district board of directors is inappropriate, the Senate
13 Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs shall study possible
14 legislative actions to prohibit such dual service in the future.

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16 Respectfully submitted,

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19 Senator Linda Chesterfield
20 District 30

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22 Prepared by: MBM/KFW
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