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INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-175
REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTY-
SIXTH ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REFER TO THE
APPROPRIATE HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES A
STUDY TO DETERMINE THE VIABILITY OF WIND ENERGY
PRODUCTION IN ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, energy costs and the creation of alternative energy systems have
become critical issues in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, wind generated power may offer an inexpensive, continuously
available energy source; and

WHEREAS, small cities and rural areas could significantly reduce the costs of
providing power through the use of wind-generated power systems; and

WHEREAS, a pilot project concerning municipal wind energy would provide a
basis for the construction wind-generated power systems across Arkansas,

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT PROPOSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE EIGHTY-SIXTH
ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

THAT the appropriate House and Senate Interim Committees study the viability
of wind energy production in Arkansas.

BE IT FURTHER PROPOSED that the study shall:

- (1) Evaluate a Municipal Wind Energy Demonstration Project for the City
of Osceola to evaluate, permit, design, engineer, install, and operate one (1) or more wind
turbines with a nominal generation capacity of between five hundred (500) kilowatts to
one thousand five hundred (1,500) kilowatts;

1 (2) Collect and evaluate wind data in northeast Arkansas to determine
2 possible commercial viability of wind energy production in the region;

3 (3) Study and examine possible effects of connecting intermittent wind
4 generation to small municipal electric systems;

5 (4) Increase awareness of renewable energy potential in Arkansas and
6 specifically among municipal electric providers; and

7 (5) Study educational opportunities for local schools.

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9 Respectfully Submitted,

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12 Representative Tommy Lee Baker
13 District 55