

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2009-047

State of Arkansas  
87th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2009

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 802

By: Senator B. Pritchard

Filed with: Senate Interim Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs  
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR FISCAL SESSIONS OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS AND  
REGULAR SESSIONS IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS AS  
AUTHORIZED BY ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT  
86; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO PROVIDE FOR FISCAL SESSIONS OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ODD-NUMBERED YEARS  
AND REGULAR SESSIONS IN EVEN-NUMBERED  
YEARS AS AUTHORIZED BY ARKANSAS  
CONSTITUTION, AMENDMENT 86.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 10-2-101 is amended to read as follows:  
10-2-101. Time for meeting.

(a) The General Assembly shall meet:

(1) ~~in~~ In regular ~~biennial~~ session at 12:00 noon on the second  
Monday in January in each ~~odd-numbered~~ even-numbered year; and

(2) In fiscal session at 12:00 noon on the second Monday in  
February of each odd-numbered year.

(b)(1) However, in any odd-numbered year following the election of a  
nonincumbent governor, the General Assembly upon convening at 12:00 noon on



1 the second Monday in January may remain in session only for such time not to  
2 exceed two (2) days as is necessary to:

3 (A) ~~open~~ Open and publish the votes for various  
4 constitutional offices;

5 (B) ~~to swear~~ Swear in the state constitutional officers  
6 and members  
7 of the General Assembly;

8 (C) ~~to organize~~ Organize and select officers; and

9 (D) ~~to otherwise~~ Otherwise prepare for the ~~regular~~ fiscal  
10 session.

11 (2) ~~It~~ The General Assembly may then stand in recess ~~for a~~  
12 ~~period of not to exceed thirty (30) days~~ until 12:00 noon on the second  
13 Monday in February.

14  
15 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 10-2-102(b), concerning duties of the  
16 Secretary of the Senate, Clerk of the House, and other officers, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (b) The employees of the Senate shall perform such duties during ~~the~~  
19 each regular session and fiscal session of the General Assembly and during  
20 the interim between the convening of special sessions and the next regular  
21 session or fiscal session of the General Assembly as may be provided by the  
22 rules of the Senate or by the Senate Efficiency Committee, subject to the  
23 approval of the Senate.

24  
25 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 10-2-107 is amended to read as follows:

26 10-2-107. Election of Speaker of House in doubt – Procedure.

27 (a) If, after the biennial general election and ~~prior to~~ before the  
28 convening of the General Assembly, a statement signed by fifty (50) or more  
29 members of the House of Representatives who will serve at the next-following  
30 session of the General Assembly is filed with the current Speaker of the  
31 House of Representatives stating that the members believe that the formal  
32 election of the new Speaker of the House is in doubt, ~~then~~ the current  
33 Speaker of the House shall call a one-day organizational meeting of all  
34 members and members-elect of the House of Representatives who will serve at  
35 the next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly. This meeting shall  
36 be held for the single purpose of designating the Speaker of the House for

1 the next General Assembly.

2 (b) If the special organizational meeting of members of the House of  
3 Representatives is called, all members and members-elect of the House of  
4 Representatives who will serve at the next-following ~~regular~~ fiscal session  
5 of the General Assembly shall be entitled to receive per diem and mileage for  
6 attending the meeting.

7  
8 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 10-2-112(a), concerning the prefiling of  
9 bills and resolutions, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a)(1) The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives and the  
11 Secretary of the Senate, under the direction and supervision of the Speaker  
12 of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,  
13 shall establish a system for the prefiling of bills and resolutions beginning  
14 on November 15 of each year preceding a regular session or a fiscal session  
15 of the General Assembly.

16 (2) Under that pre-session filing system, each member-elect of  
17 the General Assembly and holdover member of the Senate who will be serving at  
18 the next-following ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly shall be  
19 permitted to prefile bills and resolutions for the next ~~regular~~ fiscal  
20 session as soon as the members-elect of the next General Assembly are  
21 certified to the Secretary of State.

22  
23 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 10-2-113(b), concerning the consideration  
24 of gubernatorial appointments by the Senate, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) The Governor shall submit to the Senate within thirty (30) days  
26 after the General Assembly convenes in regular session the names of all  
27 appointments to boards and commissions of this state made subsequent to  
28 adjournment of the Senate at the last regular session of the General  
29 Assembly.

30 (2) Upon the convening of a fiscal session or a special session  
31 of the General Assembly, the Governor shall immediately submit the names of  
32 all appointments to boards and commissions of this state made subsequent to  
33 adjournment of the Senate at the last regular session or special session of  
34 the General Assembly.

35 (3) All appointments of members of boards and commissions of  
36 this state made while the General Assembly is in session shall be submitted

1 immediately to the Senate.

2

3 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 10-2-123(a), concerning the Institute of  
4 Legislative Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The General Assembly ~~hereby~~ determines that the conducting of an  
6 Institute of Legislative Procedure ~~prior to~~ before the convening of ~~regular~~  
7 fiscal sessions of the General Assembly on rules and legislative procedure  
8 and current fiscal conditions and other problems in state government is  
9 essential to the proper functioning of each ~~regular~~ session of the General  
10 Assembly.

11

12 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 10-2-127(b), concerning fiscal impact  
13 statements, is amended to read as follows:

14 (b) Any bill filed in the House of Representatives or the Senate that  
15 will impose a new or increased cost obligation for education in grades  
16 kindergarten through twelve (K-12) on the State of Arkansas or any local  
17 school district shall have a fiscal impact statement attached to it prepared  
18 and filed with the chair of the committee to which the bill is referred:

19 (1) At least three (3) days before the bill may be called up for  
20 final action in the committee during a regular session of the General  
21 Assembly; and

22 (2) At least one (1) day before the bill may be called up for  
23 final action in the committee during a fiscal session or a special session of  
24 the General Assembly.

25

26 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 10-2-131 is amended to read as follows:  
27 10-2-131. Internet broadcast of proceedings.

28 (a) During regular sessions, fiscal sessions, and special sessions of  
29 the General Assembly, the House of Representatives and the Senate may  
30 broadcast live audio and video of their proceedings on the Internet.

31 (b) ~~This requirement includes only proceedings~~ Subsection (a) of this  
32 section applies only to proceedings held in the House Chamber and the Senate  
33 Chamber.

34

35 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 10-2-212(d)(3), concerning certain  
36 financial elections by members of the General Assembly, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 (3)(A) The election must occur ~~prior to~~ before the fifth day of  
3 a ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly, and the election shall  
4 remain in effect until a subsequent election is made at the next ~~regular~~  
5 fiscal session of the General Assembly.

6 (B) However, if the maximum amount of reimbursement is  
7 altered by law, the member of the General Assembly shall make the election  
8 within thirty (30) days after the law becomes effective, and the election  
9 shall remain in effect until a subsequent election is made at the next  
10 ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly.

11  
12 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 10-2-217(b)(2)(B), concerning the  
13 definition of "other interim legislative duties as authorized by law", is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (B) Attendance by members and members-elect of the General  
16 Assembly at the biennial Institute of Legislative Procedure held preceding  
17 the convening of each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly, as  
18 authorized by law; and

19  
20 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 10-3-209(a), concerning expenses of  
21 members of the General Assembly, is amended to read as follows:

22 (a) The Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research shall be the  
23 disbursing officer of the funds appropriated for paying per diem, expenses,  
24 and mileage to members of the General Assembly attending ~~regular and special~~  
25 meetings during regular sessions, fiscal sessions, and special sessions of  
26 the General Assembly and attending other committee-related activities of the  
27 interim committees of the General Assembly as provided by law, unless  
28 specific provisions are made to the contrary.

29  
30 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 10-3-218 is amended to read as follows:

31 10-3-218. Budget hearings – Attendance by members of the General  
32 Assembly.

33 (a) During the presession budget hearings conducted by the Legislative  
34 Council and the Joint Budget Committee preceding each regular ~~biennial~~  
35 session or fiscal session of the General Assembly, the cochairs of the  
36 Legislative Council shall cause copies of the budget hearing agendas to be

1 furnished to each member of the General Assembly in order that all members of  
2 the Senate and House of Representatives will be advised of the times when  
3 such hearings are conducted and of the budget requests to be heard or  
4 considered each day of the hearings.

5 (b) All members of the Senate and House who will be serving in the  
6 upcoming regular ~~biennial~~ session or fiscal session of the General Assembly,  
7 including the newly elected members of the Senate and House, shall be  
8 entitled to attend any or all biennial pre-session budget hearings conducted  
9 by the Legislative Council and the Joint Budget Committee and shall be  
10 entitled to receive per diem and mileage for attending such meetings at the  
11 same rate as is provided for attendance at meetings of interim committees of  
12 the General Assembly.

13  
14 SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 10-3-301(d)(2), concerning membership of  
15 the Legislative Council, is amended to read as follows:

16 (2) The designation of first and second alternate members by the  
17 President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall be made ~~prior to~~ before adjournment  
18 of each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly.

19  
20 SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 10-3-303(c)(2), concerning the duties of  
21 the Bureau of Legislative Research, is amended to read as follows:

22 (2) Assist all members of the General Assembly upon request  
23 while the General Assembly is in regular session, fiscal session, or special  
24 session in drafting bills and resolutions, and making studies, preparing  
25 factual information, and by performing other services for members of the  
26 General Assembly as may be reasonably requested and which are in aid of the  
27 performance of the legislative duties of the members of the General Assembly;

28  
29 SECTION 15. Arkansas Code § 10-3-304 is amended to read as follows:

30 10-3-304. Sessions – Studies – Cooperation of state agencies.

31 (a)(1) The Legislative Council shall convene at any time during the  
32 interim between regular sessions, fiscal sessions, or special sessions of the  
33 General Assembly and shall remain in session for such time as it considers  
34 necessary for the consideration of all matters relating to state government,  
35 not however, for more than a total of ninety (90) days which need not be  
36 continuous.

1           (2) The Legislative Council shall convene and hold its sessions  
2 at the State Capitol at the seat of government or at other places as the  
3 Legislative Council may determine, and ample notice of all sessions thereof  
4 shall be given by the Executive Secretary to the Legislative Council in  
5 advance of the sessions.

6           (b) The Legislative Council shall undertake such studies or  
7 investigations as may be directed by the General Assembly or either house  
8 thereof. In addition, any member of the General Assembly shall be privileged  
9 when the General Assembly is not in session to submit resolutions or study  
10 proposals to the Legislative Council for its consideration, study, and  
11 recommendations.

12           (c) The Legislative Council shall report any findings and  
13 recommendations to each regular session, fiscal session, or special session  
14 of the General Assembly for the repeal or amendment of existing laws or for  
15 the enactment of new laws with respect to the operation of the state  
16 government or with respect to any matter that is a subject for legislative  
17 consideration.

18           (d) All departments and agencies of the state government are directed  
19 to cooperate with the Legislative Council and with the Bureau of Legislative  
20 Research in providing assistance, information, or data when requested so that  
21 the General Assembly might be fully advised of all matters with respect to  
22 the operation of the various state agencies, departments, and institutions.  
23

24           SECTION 16. Arkansas Code § 10-3-308 is amended to read as follows:

25           10-3-308. Presession budget briefings – Compensation.

26           (a)(1) The Legislative Council ~~is authorized to~~ may conduct or cause  
27 to be conducted budget briefings for members and members-elect of the General  
28 Assembly during the presession budget hearings conducted by the Legislative  
29 Council and the Joint Budget Committee preceding each regular session and  
30 fiscal session of the General Assembly for the purpose of informing  
31 interested members and members-elect of the General Assembly concerning  
32 budget requests, executive recommendations, and Legislative Council and Joint  
33 Budget Committee recommendations regarding the budgets for the various state  
34 agencies, institutions, departments, and programs.

35           (2) If at any time during the ~~Legislative Council and Committee~~  
36 biennial budget hearings conducted by the Legislative Council and the Joint

1 Budget Committee preceding each regular session and fiscal session of the  
2 General Assembly it appears that there is not sufficient interest or  
3 attendance by members and members-elect of the General Assembly to justify  
4 continuation of budget briefings, the chairs and co-vice chairs of the  
5 Legislative Council ~~are authorized to~~ may terminate any further briefings  
6 during that particular biennial budget session.

7 (b)(1) Each member of the General Assembly who will serve during the  
8 upcoming regular session and fiscal session of the General Assembly and each  
9 member-elect of the General Assembly ~~shall be~~ is entitled to attend the  
10 budget briefings conducted ~~pursuant to the provisions of~~ under this section.

11 (2) Each member of the General Assembly attending the budget  
12 briefings ~~shall be~~ conducted under this section is entitled to per diem and  
13 mileage for attending the budget briefings at the rate prescribed by law for  
14 members of the General Assembly who attend meetings of the interim committees  
15 of the General Assembly, to be payable from moneys appropriated for payment  
16 of per diem and mileage for attendance at meetings of interim committees of  
17 the General Assembly.

18  
19 SECTION 17. Arkansas Code § 10-3-507(a), concerning pre-session budget  
20 hearings, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a) The members of the General Assembly appointed to serve on the  
22 Joint Budget Committee at the next-following regular session or fiscal  
23 session of the General Assembly who are not members of the Legislative  
24 Council ~~shall be privileged to~~ may attend all pre-session budget hearings of  
25 the Legislative Council held after the October 1 preceding the next regular  
26 session or fiscal session of the General Assembly.

27  
28 SECTION 18. Arkansas Code § 10-3-508 is amended to read as follows:  
29 10-3-508. Duties.

30 In addition to participation by members of the Joint Budget Committee  
31 in the pre-session budget hearings of the Legislative Council, as authorized  
32 in § 10-3-507, the Joint Budget Committee during regular sessions, fiscal  
33 sessions, and special sessions of the General Assembly shall perform any  
34 duties as are provided by the Joint Rules of the House of Representatives and  
35 the Senate.



1 SECTION 19. Arkansas Code § 10-3-603(a)(1), concerning the Joint  
2 Committee on Legislative Printing Requirements and Specifications, is amended  
3 to read as follows:

4 (a)(1) The Joint Committee on Legislative Printing Requirements and  
5 Specifications shall meet subsequent to the adjournment of each regular  
6 session and fiscal session of the General Assembly, at a time to be  
7 determined jointly by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the  
8 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and shall select from its membership two  
9 (2) cochair, one (1) cochair to be a member of the House of Representatives  
10 to be elected by the members of the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Legislative  
11 Printing Requirements and Specifications who are members of the House of  
12 Representatives and one (1) cochair to be a Senator to be elected by the  
13 members of the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Legislative Printing Requirements  
14 and Specifications who are members of the Senate.

15  
16 SECTION 20. Arkansas Code § 10-3-701 is amended to read as follows:  
17 10-3-701. Creation – Members.

18 (a) There is established a joint committee of the House of  
19 Representatives and the Senate to be known as the “Joint Committee on Public  
20 Retirement and Social Security Programs”, to consist of twenty (20) members.

21 (b)(1) The ten (10) House members and ten (10) House alternates shall  
22 be selected as prescribed by House Rules.

23 (2) The House ~~cochair~~ Cochair and House ~~co-vice chair~~ Co-vice  
24 Chair of the ~~joint committee~~ Joint Committee on Public Retirement and Social  
25 Security Programs shall be selected in accordance with the ~~Rules of the House~~  
26 ~~of Representatives.~~ House Rules.

27 (3) In addition to the regular House members appointed under  
28 ~~subsection (b) of this section,~~ this subsection the Speaker of the House of  
29 Representatives shall appoint, during each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the  
30 General Assembly, ~~appoint~~ one (1) additional House member from each caucus  
31 district to serve as a nonvoting member of the ~~joint committee~~ Joint  
32 Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs only during the  
33 interim between sessions of the General Assembly.

34 (c)(1) At the commencement of each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the  
35 General Assembly, ten (10) members of the Senate shall be named pursuant to  
36 the Senate Rules to serve on the ~~joint committee~~ Joint Committee on Public

1 Retirement and Social Security Programs. Vacancies shall be filled pursuant  
2 to the Senate Rules.

3 (2) Pursuant to the Senate Rules, one (1) Senate member of the  
4 ~~joint committee~~ Joint Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security  
5 Programs shall be designated to serve as Senate ~~cochair~~ Cochair of the ~~joint~~  
6 ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs  
7 and one (1) Senate member shall be designated to serve as Senate ~~vice chair~~  
8 Vice Chair of the ~~joint committee~~ Joint Committee on Public Retirement and  
9 Social Security Programs.

10  
11 SECTION 21. Arkansas Code § 10-3-703(a) and (b), concerning joint  
12 interim committees, is amended to read as follows:

13 (a) Upon adjournment of each regular session, fiscal session, and  
14 special session of the General Assembly, the Joint Committee on Public  
15 Retirement and Social Security Programs is designated and constituted as a  
16 joint interim committee of the General Assembly to be known as the "Joint  
17 Interim Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs".

18 (b) The ~~joint interim committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on Public  
19 Retirement and Social Security Programs shall consist of the members  
20 appointed to the ~~joint committee~~ Joint Committee on Public Retirement and  
21 Social Security Programs during each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General  
22 Assembly, and they shall serve thereon until the next following ~~regular~~  
23 fiscal session of the General Assembly, at which time all members shall be  
24 appointed in the manner provided in § 10-3-701.

25  
26 SECTION 22. Arkansas Code § 10-3-802(b), concerning the Joint  
27 Committee on Energy, is amended to read as follows:

28 (b)(1) The ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Energy shall be a select  
29 committee of the House and Senate whose members shall be chosen as follows:

30 (A)(i) Ten (10) members of the Senate to be named pursuant  
31 to Senate Rules.

32 (ii) Each Senate member is authorized to appoint a  
33 member of the Senate to serve as his or her alternate on the ~~committee~~ Joint  
34 Committee on Energy; and

35 (B)(i) Fifteen (15) members of the House of  
36 Representatives to be selected as prescribed by House Rules.

1 (ii) One (1) alternate member for each of the  
2 fifteen (15) House members shall be selected as prescribed by House Rules.

3 (2)(A) Each Senate member ~~is authorized to~~ may appoint a member  
4 of the Senate to serve as his or her alternate on the ~~committee~~ Joint  
5 Committee on Energy; and

6 (B) One (1) alternate member for each of the thirteen (13)  
7 House members shall be selected as prescribed by House Rules.

8 (3) Senate members and alternate Senate members of the ~~committee~~  
9 Joint Committee on Energy shall be appointed at each ~~regular biennial~~ fiscal  
10 session of the General Assembly and shall serve until the convening of the  
11 next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly.

12  
13 SECTION 23. Arkansas Code § 10-3-820 is amended to read as follows:

14 10-3-820. Joint Interim Committee on Energy – Members – Duties.

15 (a)(1) The members of the House of Representatives and the Senate  
16 appointed at each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly to the Joint  
17 Committee on Energy shall constitute a joint interim committee of the General  
18 Assembly to function in the interim between the sine die adjournment or  
19 extended recess of the regular session or fiscal session of each General  
20 Assembly until the convening of the next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the  
21 General Assembly or reconvening of the current General Assembly during an  
22 extended recess.

23 (2)(A) This joint interim committee shall be known as the “Joint  
24 Interim Committee on Energy” and shall function in addition to the other  
25 interim committees of the General Assembly established by law.

26 (B) ~~In the event~~ If a vacancy ~~shall occur on the joint~~  
27 ~~interim committee~~ occurs on the Joint Interim Committee on Energy, the  
28 vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided for the initial  
29 appointment.

30 (b)(1) The ~~joint interim committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on Energy  
31 shall make continuing studies of energy resources and problems, either  
32 initiated by the ~~committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on Energy or referred to  
33 it by either house of the General Assembly for study, in the interim between  
34 sessions of the General Assembly.

35 (2) Interim study proposals and resolutions relating to energy  
36 filed with the Legislative Council under ~~the provisions of~~ § 10-3-214 for

1 review and referral to the appropriate germane interim committee of the  
2 General Assembly, ~~relating to energy~~, shall be referred to the ~~joint interim~~  
3 ~~committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on Energy.

4 (3) The ~~joint interim committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on  
5 Energy shall undertake each study referred to it by members of the General  
6 Assembly or by the Legislative Council and shall submit a report of its  
7 findings and recommendations in regard to each study request ~~prior to~~ before  
8 the convening of the next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly.

9 (c) In addition, the ~~joint interim committee~~ Joint Interim Committee  
10 on Energy shall exercise leadership in the interim between legislative  
11 sessions and shall attempt to coordinate the various energy activities,  
12 studies, and planning activities of the General Assembly ~~which~~ that relate to  
13 the conservation, development, and use of energy resources for the various  
14 committees of the General Assembly.

15 (d) The ~~committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on Energy shall cooperate  
16 with the Governor, the appropriate administrative agencies of this state,  
17 legislative and administrative agencies of other states, and with the federal  
18 government, including participation in regional and national meetings and  
19 seminars of state and federal officials in the exchange of information and  
20 data on energy resources, supplies, reserves, and in the conservation,  
21 storage, and use of energy, including the disposal of energy waste and by-  
22 products.

23  
24 SECTION 24. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1103 is amended to read as follows:  
25 10-3-1103. When committee functions – Administrative responsibilities.

26 (a) The Joint Interim Committee on Legislative Facilities shall  
27 function during the interim between regular sessions, fiscal sessions, or  
28 special sessions of the General Assembly and may function, if necessary,  
29 while the General Assembly is in regular session, fiscal session, special  
30 session, or an extension of a regular session, fiscal session, or special  
31 session, for the purpose of discharging its duties under this subchapter.

32 (b) The ~~committee~~ Joint Interim Committee on Legislative Facilities  
33 shall administer all provisions of this subchapter relating to repairs,  
34 improvements, and furnishing of committee rooms and legislative facilities in  
35 the State Capitol Building, including, if necessary, the payment of rental  
36 required for the housing of state agencies moved from the State Capitol

1 Building as a result of any project undertaken by the ~~committee~~ Joint Interim  
2 Committee on Legislative Facilities pursuant to the provisions of ~~under~~ this  
3 subchapter until space for the agencies may be provided in other public  
4 facilities.

5  
6 SECTION 25. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1320 is amended to read as follows:  
7 10-3-1320. Interim operation – Vacancies.

8 (a) The Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth shall be  
9 composed of ten (10) members appointed pursuant to Senate Rules and shall  
10 function in the interim between the sine die adjournment or extended recess  
11 of the ~~regular~~ fiscal session of each General Assembly until the convening of  
12 the next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly or the convening of  
13 the current General Assembly during an extended recess.

14 (b)(1) The ~~committee~~ Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth  
15 shall make continuing studies pertaining to the safety, health, development,  
16 and problems of children. The studies may either be initiated by the  
17 ~~committee~~ Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth or referred to it by  
18 either house of the General Assembly for study in the interim between  
19 sessions of the General Assembly.

20 (2) Interim study proposals and resolutions relating to  
21 children, which are filed with the Legislative Council under ~~the provisions~~  
22 ~~of~~ § 10-3-214 for review and referral to the appropriate germane joint  
23 interim committee of the General Assembly, shall be referred to the ~~committee~~  
24 Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth.

25 (3) The ~~committee~~ Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth  
26 shall undertake each study referred to it by members of the General Assembly  
27 or by the Legislative Council and shall submit a report of its findings and  
28 recommendations in regard to each study request ~~prior to~~ before the convening  
29 of the next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly.

30 (c) In addition, the ~~committee~~ Senate Interim Committee on Children  
31 and Youth shall exercise leadership in the interim between legislative  
32 sessions and shall attempt to coordinate for the various committees of the  
33 General Assembly the various activities, studies, and planning activities of  
34 the General Assembly ~~which~~ that relate to children and youth, delivery of  
35 services to children, and use of funding resources for programs and services.

36 (d) The ~~committee~~ Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth shall

1 cooperate with the Governor, the appropriate administrative agencies of this  
2 state, legislative and administrative agencies of other states, and the  
3 federal government, including participation in regional and national meetings  
4 and seminars of state and federal officials in the exchange of information  
5 and data on children and youth problems and resolution of those problems.  
6

7 SECTION 26. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1704, as amended by Act 248 of 2009,  
8 is amended to read as follows:

9 10-3-1704. Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information  
10 Technology – Members – Duties.

11 (a) The members of the House of Representatives and the Senate  
12 appointed at each ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly to the Joint  
13 Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology shall  
14 constitute a joint committee of the General Assembly to function during and  
15 in the interim between the sine die adjournment or extended recess of the  
16 ~~regular~~ fiscal session of each General Assembly, until the convening of the  
17 next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly or reconvening of the  
18 current General Assembly, or during an extended recess.

19 (b)(1)(A) The ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and  
20 Information Technology shall make continuing studies concerning the  
21 development of access to a statewide public telecommunications network for  
22 distance learning, telemedicine, and universal access for governmental  
23 entities, and other issues concerning advanced communications and information  
24 technology, either initiated by the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced  
25 Communications and Information Technology or referred to it by either house  
26 of the General Assembly for study, in the interim between sessions of the  
27 General Assembly.

28 (B)(i) Interim study proposals and resolutions relating to  
29 advanced communications and information technology filed with the Legislative  
30 Council under ~~the provisions of~~ § 10-3-214 for review and referral to the  
31 appropriate germane interim committee of the General Assembly, ~~relating to~~  
32 ~~advanced communications and information technology~~, shall be referred to the  
33 ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information  
34 Technology.

35 (ii) The ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced  
36 Communications and Information Technology shall undertake each study referred

1 to it by members of the General Assembly or by the Legislative Council and  
2 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations in regard to each  
3 study request to the General Assembly ~~prior to~~ before the convening of the  
4 next ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly.

5 (iii) The ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced  
6 Communications and Information Technology shall review any plan developed or  
7 updated by a public instrumentality.

8 (2) In addition, the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced  
9 Communications and Information Technology shall exercise leadership in the  
10 interim between legislative sessions and shall attempt to coordinate for the  
11 various committees of the General Assembly the various activities, studies,  
12 and planning activities of the General Assembly ~~which~~ that relate to the  
13 development of access to a statewide public telecommunications information  
14 infrastructure.

15 (3)(A) ~~The committee shall have the power and authority, upon~~  
16 Upon approval of a majority of the members of the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee  
17 on Advanced Communications and Information Technology, ~~to~~ the Joint Committee  
18 on Advanced Communications and Information Technology may subpoena person,  
19 documents, and records.

20 (B) However, no action of the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on  
21 Advanced Communications and Information Technology regarding the exercise of  
22 the subpoena power shall be taken except upon notice of at least one (1) week  
23 to all members of the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced Communications  
24 and Information Technology or upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the membership  
25 of the ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information  
26 Technology.

27 (4) The ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and  
28 Information Technology shall cooperate with the Governor, with public  
29 secondary and postsecondary institutions of education, with the appropriate  
30 administrative agencies of this state, with legislative and administrative  
31 agencies and institutions of other states, and with the federal government  
32 and others in the planning and development of access to a statewide public  
33 telecommunications infrastructure linking institutions, businesses,  
34 government agencies, schools, hospitals, libraries, communities, and other  
35 public and private entities to the national information infrastructure.

36 (c) The ~~committee~~ Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and

1 Information Technology shall exercise appropriate legislative oversight of  
2 the operations of the Department of Information Systems.

3  
4 SECTION 27. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2204(a), concerning meetings of the  
5 Academic Facilities Oversight Committee, is amended to read as follows:

6 (a) The Academic Facilities Oversight Committee shall function during  
7 the interim between regular sessions, fiscal sessions, or ~~special~~  
8 extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly, while the General Assembly is  
9 in session, and while the General Assembly is in recess.

10  
11 SECTION 28. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2302(c)(1), concerning the Arkansas  
12 Legislative Task Force on Abused and Neglected Children, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (c)(1) The Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth  
15 or the chair's designee shall call the first meeting within ninety (90) days  
16 of the adjournment of the ~~regular~~ fiscal session of the General Assembly and  
17 shall serve as chair at the first meeting.

18  
19 SECTION 29. Arkansas Code § 10-4-405 is amended to read as follows:  
20 10-4-405. Employment and removal of Legislative Auditor.

21 (a) The Legislative Auditor shall be employed by a majority vote of  
22 the membership of the Legislative Joint Auditing Committee, and the name of  
23 the person selected shall be presented to each house of the General Assembly  
24 for confirmation by both houses if the General Assembly is in session at the  
25 time of the selection.

26 (b)(1) If the Legislative Auditor is selected while the General  
27 Assembly is not in session, he or she shall in all respects carry out the  
28 functions, powers, and duties as provided in this subchapter until the next  
29 regular session or fiscal session of the General Assembly.

30 (2)(A) During the next regular session or fiscal session  
31 ~~legislative of the General Assembly~~ session, the name of the person selected  
32 as Legislative Auditor shall be presented to both houses of the General  
33 Assembly for confirmation.

34 (B) Unless upon the presentation his or her selection is  
35 rejected, he or she shall in all respects continue to carry out the  
36 functions, powers, and duties as Legislative Auditor.



1 (c) When a vacancy in the position of Legislative Auditor exists, the  
2 position shall be filled by the ~~Committee~~ Legislative Joint Auditing  
3 Committee by majority action of the ~~Committee~~ Legislative Joint Auditing  
4 Committee membership, subject to approval of both houses of the General  
5 Assembly at its next regular session or fiscal session.

6 (d) The Legislative Auditor may be removed for cause at any time by a  
7 majority vote of the membership of the ~~Committee~~ Legislative Joint Auditing  
8 Committee after a public hearing.

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