

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2009-198

REQUESTING THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTED SERVICES DESIGNED TO IDENTIFY STRUGGLING SCHOOLS, EVALUATE THE PROGRAMMATIC AND CURRICULAR OFFERINGS, AND IMPLEMENT CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT.

WHEREAS, the education of the children in the State has been and remains the highest priority of Arkansas's policymakers; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of the federal No Child Left Behind Act reinforced and buttressed the State's efforts to improve student achievement and provide assistance for struggling students; and

WHEREAS, intervention programs and processes have been put into place to help those schools and school districts that have been identified as being in need of assistance to improve the academic performance of their students; and

WHEREAS, policymakers must ensure that the resources utilized in intervention programs are structured and administered in a manner that provides the maximum benefit to the schools and students that they are intended to assist.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Committees conduct a study of the Arkansas Department of Education programs and contracted services designed to identify struggling schools, evaluate programmatic and curricular offerings, and implement corrective actions to improve student achievement.

BE IT FURTHER PROPOSED, that the study include, at a minimum:

- 1 (a) A review of the structure of the department's intervention system;
- 2 (b) A review of the intervention process;
- 3 (c) A review of the role and responsibilities of contracted service
- 4 providers in the intervention system; and
- 5 (d) A review of the results of the intervention system, with specific
- 6 information concerning which schools have received services, the level of
- 7 school improvement resulting from the intervention service, and any systemic
- 8 delays or backlogs that have occurred.

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10 Respectfully submitted,

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14 Representative Bill Abernathy

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