

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2009-233

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3 REQUESTING THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE
4 SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION CONDUCT A STUDY OF
5 REMEDIATION AT BOTH THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL AND THE POSTSECONDARY
6 LEVEL, INCLUDING REMEDIATION REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF END-OF-
7 COURSE EXAMS, HIGH-STAKES END-OF-COURSE EXAMS, AND COLLEGE
8 READINESS EXAMS; POST-REMEDATION RETESTING AND EXIT EXAMS USED
9 TO MEASURE A STUDENT'S MASTERY OF THE SUBJECT HE OR SHE WAS
10 REMEDIATED IN; AND THE RIGOR, DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION, AND
11 EFFECTIVENESS OF INDIVIDUALIZED ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT PLANS
12 DEVELOPED BY PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND REMEDIAL COURSES DEVELOPED BY
13 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

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15 WHEREAS, there is a high number of students requiring remediation at
16 both the high school and postsecondary level; and

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18 WHEREAS, to be effective, individualized academic improvement plans and
19 remedial courses must be designed in a manner that will allow a student to
20 gain the knowledge he or she needs to succeed; and

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22 WHEREAS, students who do not pass end-of-course exams and high-stakes
23 end-of-course exams are required to participate in remediation activities
24 included in the students individualized academic improvement plan; and

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26 WHEREAS, students who do not meet a minimum score on a college
27 readiness exam must enroll and pass a remedial course in the subject he or
28 she failed before taking a college level course; and

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30 WHEREAS, students who are required to take at least one remedial course
31 at a postsecondary institution are more likely to leave postsecondary
32 education without attaining a degree; and

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34 WHEREAS, there is a concern that students in high school who fail to
35 pass an end-of-course exam or a high-stakes end-of-course exam may not have
36 time to receive remediation and retake the required exam before graduation,

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NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE SENATE
INTRIM COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS:

 THAT the House Interim Committee On Education and the Senate Interim
Committee On Education study remediation issues that pertain to students in
high school and students at postsecondary institutions.

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

 (a) A written response and presentation by the Department of Education
on:

- (1) The remediation rate of students due to failure to pass end-of-course exams and high-stakes end-of-course exams;
- (2) The process for developing and implementing an individualized academic improvement plan for a student;
- (3) The process in place to allow a student to retest; and
- (4) The timeframe given for a student to complete remediation successfully; and

 (b) A written response and presentation by the Department of Higher
Education on the remediation rate of students entering postsecondary
education, including:

- (1) The areas in which remediation is needed;
- (2) The rigor and design of remedial courses;
- (3) Exit standards utilized to determine whether or not a student has successfully been remediated and is prepared to move forward with postsecondary level courses; and
- (4) Support systems in place for students requiring remediation.

Respectfully submitted,

Representative Donna Hutchinson

1 District 98

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5 Representative Johnnie Roebuck

6 District 20

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