

2 State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S3/23/11 S3/29/11

3 88th General Assembly

A Bill

4 Regular Session, 2011

SENATE BILL 812

5
6 By: Senators Elliott, *G. Jeffress, S. Flowers, Luker, Salmon, Laverty, J. Jeffress, Fletcher, D. Wyatt, S. Harrelson, Crumbly, L. Chesterfield*

7
8 By: Representatives Love, Fielding, *G. Smith, Lenderman, B. Wilkins, Murdock, E. Elliott, Walker, Leding, H. Wilkins*

9
10 *Filed with: Interim Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Economic Development*
11 *pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.*

For An Act To Be Entitled

12
13 AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDY TO EXPLORE HOW TO *MAXIMIZE*
14 *USE OF* THE ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION,
15 RURAL *SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS,* OTHER
16 PUBLIC AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE PRIVATE
17 SECTOR IN ADDRESSING QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES IN
18 UNDERSERVED AREAS AND TO ATTRACT AND PROMOTE ECONOMIC
19 DEVELOPMENT IN THESE UNDERSERVED AREAS; AND FOR OTHER
20 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

21
22
23
24 CREATE A STUDY TO EXPLORE HOW TO USE THE
25 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, RURAL
26 SERVICES, PUBLIC AGENCIES, AND PUBLIC AND
27 PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS IN ADDRESSING
28 QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES AND ECONOMIC
29 DEVELOPMENT IN UNDERSERVED AREAS.

30
31
32 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

33 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY

34 (a) The purpose of this act is to create a study to:
35

1 (1) Explore how to maximize the use of the Arkansas Economic
2 Development Commission, rural services, economic development districts, other
3 public agencies and organizations, and the private sector in addressing:

4 (A) Quality-of-life issues in underserved areas, including
5 without limitation:

6 (i) Access to housing;
7 (ii) Access to social and recreational outlets, both
8 indoor and outdoor;

9 (iii) Access to comprehensive healthcare;
10 (iv) Access to a variety of high-quality, healthy
11 food choices;

12 (v) Access to shopping choices;
13 (vi) Deliberate development of community across
14 boundaries of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, socioeconomic status, age,
15 geography, and other barriers;

16 (vii) Local plans to support restorative justice;
17 (viii) Plans for expansive, inclusive civic
18 participation; and

19 (ix) Access to transportation;

20 (B) Promotion of economic opportunity in underserved
21 areas;

22 (C) Capacity-building issues across traditional lines of
23 race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, age, geography, and other
24 boundaries, including without limitation:

25 (i) Leadership building;
26 (ii) Deliberate and sustained power-sharing;
27 (iii) Planning; and
28 (iv) Capitalism literacy;

29 (D) Internet marketing; and

30 (E) Other opportunities for exploration, including without
31 limitation:

32 (i) Implementation of differentiated diagnosis and
33 response to discover and support economic opportunity;

34 (ii) Evaluation of efforts by public agencies and
35 both the private and nonprofit sectors to initiate and support economic
36 opportunities;

1 (iii) Assessment of cooperative efforts among areas
2 with similar and seemingly dissimilar interests; and

3 (iv) Studying how to grow from our past, change
4 direction, rise to new heights, and improve quality of life and economic
5 opportunity for underserved areas by considering the following initiatives:

6 (a) Conducting talent and dream audits;

7 (b) Supporting place-bound possibilities;

8 (c) Promoting necessity-entrepreneurship; and

9 (d) Exploring creative economy; and

10 (2) Request that the Arkansas Economic Development Commission,
11 rural services, economic development districts, other public agencies and
12 organizations, and the private sector determine the extent to which they are
13 positioned to respond to the needs of underserved areas.

14 (b) As used in this section, "underserved" means an area or a
15 population that has inadequate, insufficient, or under-resourced services.

16
17 /s/Elliott

18
19 Referred by the Arkansas Senate

20 Prepared by: MMC/VJF
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36