

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2013-166

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3 REQUESTING THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE,
4 AND LABOR STUDY THE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
5 PROVIDED TO STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL
6 DISABILITIES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

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8 WHEREAS, educational opportunities for students with intellectual and
9 developmental disabilities are primarily limited to elementary and secondary
10 education; and

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12 WHEREAS, some institutions of higher education have identified and
13 developed programs for students with intellectual and developmental
14 disabilities that target the needs and abilities of these students; and

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16 WHEREAS, students with intellectual and developmental disabilities have
17 skills and abilities that allow them to successfully participate in programs
18 at institutions of higher education after graduating or exiting high school;
19 and

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21 WHEREAS, the University of Arkansas has developed a program for
22 students with intellectual and developmental disabilities who have graduated
23 or exited high school called Project Launch; and

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25 WHEREAS, Project Launch is a program that allows students to experience
26 college life, such as having a class on campus, using campus facilities,
27 eating in dining halls, and engaging with the college community; and

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29 WHEREAS, the Project Launch program focuses on independent living
30 skills, social skills development, and employment opportunities for students
31 enrolled in the program; and

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33 WHEREAS, programs such as Project Launch at the University of Arkansas
34 are critical in preparing students with intellectual and developmental
35 disabilities for life after school is completed; and

1 WHEREAS, institutions of higher education should be encouraged to
2 develop and maintain programs similar to Project Launch for students with
3 intellectual and developmental disabilities,
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5 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE INTERIM HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND
6 LABOR OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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8 THAT the Interim House Committee On Public Health, Welfare And Labor
9 study the postsecondary educational opportunities provided to students with
10 intellectual and developmental disabilities at institutions of higher
11 education; and
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13 THAT the Interim House Committee on Public Health, Welfare And Labor
14 extend an invitation to the House Committee on Education to participate in
15 the study.
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18 Respectfully submitted,
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22 Representative Mary Broadaway
23 District 57
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26 By: SAG/KFW
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