1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2021-006 2 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL REFER TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE 3 ON AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE AND MILITARY AFFAIRS A 4 STUDY REGARDING CONSUMER PROTECTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS FROM 5 6 PREDATORY PRACTICES; AND SAFEGUARDING AGAINST FINANCIAL 7 EXPLOITATION OF RETIREES FOR ARKANSANS. 8 9 WHEREAS, protecting elderly adults and vulnerable adults is a priority for the State of Arkansas; and 10 11 12 WHEREAS, the number of cases involving scams or exploitation of elderly 13 adults or vulnerable adults has quadrupled in the last three (3) years, yet 14 elderly adults or vulnerable adults are the least likely of any age or 15 socioeconomic group to report losing money to fraud; and 16 17 WHEREAS, elderly adults are using wire transfers and other types of 18 electronic payment methods to send money to fraudulent people who are 19 perpetuating romance scams, government imposter scams, and sweepstakes scams; 20 and 21 22 WHEREAS, the economic effects of romance scams, government imposter 23 scams, and sweepstakes scams can be devastating to elderly adults or 24 vulnerable adults, and 25 26 NOW THEREFORE, 27 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL 28 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 29 30 THAT the Legislative Council refer to the House Committee on Aging, 31 Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs a study to: 32 (1) Determine the best practices required to protect elderly 33 adults and vulnerable adults from deceptive acts or practices in commerce; 34 and 35 (2) Determine the best practices to provide the financial 36 institutions in this state, as well as the Attorney General and other law

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     enforcement agencies, with the tools needed to recognize, report, delay, and
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     combat financial exploitation against elderly adults and vulnerable adults
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     and to commit to protecting elderly adults and vulnerable adults through
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     innovative and aggressive tactics.
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     BE IT FURTHER PROPOSED THAT the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth,
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    Legislative and Military Affairs submit a report of its findings and
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     recommendations, including any recommendations for proposing legislation, to
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     the General Assembly no later than December 31, 2021.
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     Respectfully submitted,
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     Representative Carlton Wing
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     District 38
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     Prepared by: ANS/ANS
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