INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2023-094

REQUESTING THE GAME AND FISH/STATE POLICE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING
A NEW UNIT OF THE DIVISION OF ARKANSAS STATE POLICE TO HAVE
STATEWIDE JURISDICTION TO INVESTIGATE CRIME AND ENFORCE THE LAWS
OF THE STATE, TO BE FUNDED BY THE ONLINE SALES TAX.

WHEREAS, crime in parts of the state has increased over recent years
among both the adult and juvenile populations; and

WHEREAS, regular patrolling and policing of neighborhoods and
communities by law enforcement has been shown to be an effective tool for
reducing crime; and

WHEREAS, the increasing number of criminal reports, investigations, and
unsolved crimes is a challenge for local law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Arkansas State Police can be an effective
resource for increased patrolling and policing of communities, investigating
crimes, and solving unsolved crimes; and

WHEREAS, online sales tax collected by the state may be a revenue
stream that could fund an additional division of the Department of Public
Safety or unit of the Division of Arkansas State Police to provide additional
law enforcement services,

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT PROPOSED BY THE GAME AND FISH/STATE POLICE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE ARKANSAS
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF
ARKANSAS:

THAT the Arkansas Legislative Council refer to the Game and
Fish/Arkansas State Police Subcommittee of the Arkansas Legislative Council a
study to determine the feasibility of establishing an additional division of
the Department of Public Safety or unit of Division of Arkansas State Police

1 to provide statewide policing and law enforcement services within the state

2 for adult criminal offenders and juvenile delinquent offenders.

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4 Respectfully submitted,

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8 Senator Bryan King

9 District 28

10 Prepared by: JLC/JLC

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