1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2021-133 2 REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO REFER TO THE SENATE 3 4 COMMITTEE ON CITY, COUNTY, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS A REQUEST TO STUDY THE CREATION OF A STATE-LEVEL DIVISION DEDICATED TO COORDINATING 5 6 AND PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS. 7 8 WHEREAS, one of the state's most vital local resources is the numerous 9 volunteer fire departments that provide fire protection to less populated 10 areas; and 11 12 WHEREAS, local volunteer fire departments are often understaffed and 13 overworked, with little administrative assistance to help comply with the 14 requirements to operate a local volunteer fire department; and 15 16 WHEREAS, the creation of a state-level division dedicated to 17 coordinating a comprehensive plan and resources for local volunteer fire 18 departments may greatly assist these vital public entities, 19 20 NOW THEREFORE, 21 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL 22 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 23 24 THAT the Legislative Council refer to the Senate Committee on City, 25 County, and Local Affairs a request to study the creation of a state-level 26 division dedicated to coordinating and providing assistance to local 27 volunteer fire departments. 28 29 30 Respectfully submitted, 31 32 33 34 Senator Kim Hammer 35 District 33 36 Prepared by: BPG/BPG