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**THE SENATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS**

MEMBER:
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December 2, 2011

Senator Mary Ann Salmon
Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
Room 315, State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

Representative Tommy Lee Baker
Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
Room 315, State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Salmon and Representative Baker:

Enclosed for the consideration of the Arkansas Legislative Council is the annual report of the Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force, which is submitted pursuant to Act 629 of 2007, Section (2) (a).

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions concerning this report.

Sincerely,

Mike Fletcher
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Senator Mike Fletcher,
Chair

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Enclosure: 1

Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention - Progress on Recommendations for State Legislation (10/21/2011)

| Recommendation | Report Page No. | Bill Number | Bill Titles and Other Actions | Sponsor | Bill Status |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|--|-----------|-----------------|
| Recommendations for State Legislation | | | | | |
| 1. An increase in the wholesale excise tax on all alcoholic beverages sold in Arkansas designated specifically to fund substance abuse prevention, substance abuse treatment and law enforcement interdiction programs. | 9 | | No significant progress. During the 2011-2012 interim the Task Force will continue to look for alternative sources of funding to support substance abuse and prevention activities. | | |
| 2. Maintain Support of Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act of 2000. | 10 | Initiated Act 1 of 2000 | The Act and its related funding remained unchanged during the 2011 Legislative Session. Senator Bill Pritchard filed an Interim Study Proposal (ISP 2011-055) with the Bureau of Legislative Research to amend the Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act. This amendment would transfer 15% of the Prevention and Cessation Program Account to the Drug Abuse Prevention Treatment fund for the Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention to be used exclusively for drug court or other substance abuse and prevention activities. The Task Force supports the current distribution of funds as stated in the Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act of 2000. | Pritchard | ISP 2011-055 |
| 3. Legislation to Expand Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs in Arkansas. | 11 | SB345 of 2011 | Senator Percy Malone sponsored SB345 of 2011, to establish a prescription drug monitoring program. This legislation authorizes the State Board of Health to create the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and to create a controlled substance database. This legislation also authorizes the State Board of Health to create the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Advisory Committee. The Department of Health received a federal grant to develop the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which should be online by March 1, 2012. | Malone | Act 304 of 2011 |

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|--|-----------------|---------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| 4. Reinstate the authority of law enforcement to seize drivers licenses of all underage individuals charged with Minor in Possession for the purpose of administrative suspension. | 12 | | No significant progress during the 2011 Legislative Session. However, the Task Force will consider this recommendation in their 2013 legislative package to present to the Arkansas General Assembly. | | |
| 5. A law to require warning to women regarding fetal alcohol spectrum disorder at the point of sale of alcohol in restaurants and bars. | 13 | SB706 of 2011 | Senator Bill Pritchard sponsored legislation for the posting of warning signs relating to drinking alcoholic beverages during pregnancy in establishments that received a permit under law to sale or dispense alcoholic beverages. Senate Bill 706 passed the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor on March 17, 2011 and passed the full Senate with unanimous support on March 21, 2011. Senate Bill 706 passed the House Rules Committee on March 23, 2011, however, it was stalled in the Arkansas House of Representatives. Currently, 24 States have enacted laws requiring warnings at the point of sale, including bars and restaurants to raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol use during pregnancy (U.S. Department of Health & Human Services). | Pritchard | |

| Recommendation | Report Page No. | Bill Number | Bill Titles and Other Actions | Sponsor | Bill Status |
|---|-----------------|---------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| 6. A revision of Garrett's Law to include required physician reporting for alcohol use among pregnant mothers under 21. | 14 | SB705 of 2011 | No significant progress during the 2011 Legislative Session. Senator Bill Pritchard filed Senate Bill 705, it was assigned to the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor on March 1, 2011. Senate Bill 705 was withdrawn from the committee on March 21, 2011. This bill would require physicians to report alcohol use by a pregnant woman who is under twenty-one years of age. However, the Healthcare providers thought this revision would be counterproductive and discourage the mother's from seeking prenatal care. During the 2011-2012 interim the Task Force will seek additional input from Healthcare providers and other stakeholders. | Pritchard | |
| 7. A call to maintain the 21 drinking age in Arkansas, including on military bases. | 15 | | The drinking age in Arkansas remains 21, including on military bases. | | |