

June 14, 2012

Senator Mary Ann Salmon, Senate Co-Chair
Representative Tommy Lee Baker, House Co-Chair
Arkansas Legislative Council
315 State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Salmon and Representative Baker:

Your Subcommittee on Higher Education met at 1 p.m. June 14, 2012 in Room A MAC to hear testimony on the following:

Mr. Shane Broadway, interim Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education, presented an updated report on in-state student loan debt. He was joined by Mr. Tony Williams, Director of the Arkansas Student Loan Authority, to discuss trends in this debt. Representatives of the Department of Workforce Services were on hand to explain a number of past due balances the Department has on the books at several higher education institutions.

Deputy Attorney General Jim DePriest spoke to the membership about Attorney General Dustin McDaniel's request that Congress restrict the ability of for-profit colleges to access GI Bill and veteran's benefits. A letter from Congressman Mike Ross supporting the Attorney General's efforts was read by Rep. Roebuck. Mr. Broadway was joined by Ms. Cynthia Moten of ADHE to further explain how for-profit colleges are regulated in Arkansas.

Following a brief ADHE update by Mr. Broadway, the subcommittee adjourned.

Sincerely,

Sen. Sue Madison
Senate Co-Chair

Rep. Johnnie Roebuck
House Co-Chair