

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

**Friday, May 15, 2015**

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The Arkansas Legislative Council met at 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 15, 2015 in Committee Room A of the Big Mac Building, Little Rock, Arkansas. Co-Chair David L. Branscum called the meeting to order and recognized a quorum of members present. The members present are listed on the sign-in sheets.

**Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Co-Chair Branscum referred the members to the minutes of the previous meetings of the Legislative Council and asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. **Representative David Branscum moved that the minutes of the Legislative Council meeting on December 19, 2014 (Exhibit C.1) and the minutes of the Legislative Council meeting on April 22, 2015 (Exhibit C.2) be adopted. The motion was seconded by Senator Terry Rice and passed by voice vote.**

**Presentation of Revenue Reports**

March 2015 Monthly Revenue Report

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Richard Wilson, Assistant Director for Research Services with the Bureau of Legislative Research, to present the monthly revenue report for March 2015 (Exhibit D.1) and the monthly revenue report for April 2015 (Exhibit D.2). Mr. Wilson stated that the March 2015 report reflects that after nine (9) months and at the end of March 2015, gross revenue collections were up \$157.2 million ahead of the same period last year for a growth rate of three point five percent (3.5%) while net collections are \$105.9 million ahead of last year for a growth rate of two point nine percent (2.9%).

Mr. Wilson stated the graph page shows that revenues in March 2015 declined and that the spreadsheet shows a negative monthly growth rate for gross receipts and a negative growth rate for individual final payments, which may be a timing issue.

April 2015 Monthly Revenue Report

Mr. Wilson referred members to the April 2015 monthly revenue report, which reflects that after ten months the gross receipts are \$214 million dollars ahead of the same period last year for a growth rate of four point one percent (4.1%) and the net available is \$159.7 million ahead of last year for a growth rate of three point eight percent (3.8%). Mr. Wilson reported that the April 2015 graph page reflects that it was a good month and the spreadsheet shows that gross receipts for the month were four point one percent (4.1%) and reflects a timing issue in that weather-related delays of purchases during the bad weather in February 2015. Mr. Wilson reported that growth rate for individual final payments for April 2015 is twenty-five percent (25%), which indicates that those individuals that were not on employment withholding made their payments in April 2015. Mr. Wilson reported that corporate

payments were ahead of forecast for the month of April 2015 and that \$25 million in payments were made in April rather than in May as was expected, and a decline in corporate payments may be seen for May 2015. Mr. Wilson reported that the growth rate for gross receipts for the ten-month period is over two percent (2%) and the growth rate for income taxes is over five percent (5%). This concluded Mr. Wilson's report and there were no questions.

### **Report of the Executive Subcommittee**

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Terry Rice to present the report of the Executive Subcommittee (Exhibit E). Senator Rice reported that the Executive Subcommittee of the Legislative Council met on May 14, 2015 and heard a presentation from Jillian Thayer, Legal Counsel to the Director, concerning proposed changes to the Legislative Council Rules. The Executive Subcommittee asked that the draft of the proposed rules be sent today to all members of the Legislative Council and their alternates for review and that the proposed rules will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting in June.

Senator Rice reported that Representative David Meeks, Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs, was recognized and presented a proposed actuarial consultant services contract between the Bureau of Legislative Research and Osborn, Carreiro & Associates. The Executive Subcommittee voted to recommend approval of the contract.

Senator Rice reported that Senator Jim Hendren, Co-Chair of the Health Reform Legislative Task Force, presented the proposed consultant services agreement between The Stephen Group and the Bureau of Legislative Research. Representatives of The Stephen Group were present and answered questions. Senator Bill Sample made a motion that the task force be given another week to come to consensus on the consultant issue, which failed by voice vote. A motion was then made to recommend approval of the consultant services agreement between The Stephen Group and the Bureau of Legislative Research and the motion passed by voice vote.

The Executive Subcommittee heard a report from Marty Garrity, the Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research, and she reminded the subcommittee that the Legislative Council meeting in June is scheduled to meet on June 12, 2015, which is one week earlier than the regular meeting date.

### **Senator Terry Rice moved that the report of the Executive Subcommittee be adopted.**

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Representative Jeremy Gillam, Speaker of the House, who commented that in regard to the consultant agreement recommended by the Health Reform Legislative Task Force and the questions raised on the totality of the scope of work needed by the task force to make proper recommendation to the General Assembly, that he concurs with the Executive Subcommittee recommendation to go forward with this agreement and he also strongly recommends to the members of the task force to consider and discuss at the next meeting a concurrent contract to address the totality of the scope of work and the concerns regarding the scope of work that may still exist. Following his comments, Speaker Gillam responded to questions from Senator Linda Chesterfield.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Jonathan Dismang, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, who commented that he echoed the Speaker's comments regarding the debate on the subject of the consultant agreement and the scope of the task force's challenge of developing a new Medicaid Program that is sustainable for the state. Senator Dismang stated that he also plans to attend the next

task force meeting and he wants to make sure that there are goals, priorities, and a clear line of vision of where they want to go in regard to the Medicaid Program and the private option. He commented that, after listening to comments by the vendors, he is unsure that the goals can be accomplished with the current consultant agreement in that it was stated that about ten percent (10%) of work would be in the scrubbing of the roles. He commented that this equates to about \$100,000 to examine 800,000 people who are participating in the program, which will be a tremendous challenge that may take more time than has been anticipated. Senator Dismang commented that he wanted to make sure that the task force would meet again as soon as possible to set out goals and a clear line of vision of where they want to go, and to make sure that contracts in the future would align with these.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Joyce Elliott who commented that this discussion seems to suggest a lack of confidence in the work done by the task force members in selecting a consultant and that the discussion of the qualifications of the consultant should have taken place before the vote.

**Co-Chair Branscum called for consideration of the motion by Senator Terry Rice to adopt the report of the Executive Subcommittee. The motion was seconded by Senator Larry Teague and passed by a voice vote.**

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Teague who asked if the Legislative Council has the funds for the study that was just approved. Co-Chair Branscum recognized Marty Garrity, Executive Secretary of the Legislative Council, who responded that the Legislative Council has sufficient funds for the study and that the Bureau of Legislative Research has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Human Services that fifty percent (50%) of the contract will be funded by the department and fifty percent (50%) by the Bureau.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Elliott who asked how much money is available for another study. Co-Chair Branscum recognized Ms. Garrity who responded she did not have a specific amount, but over the last few years there was about \$2 million in consultant fees. Ms. Garrity stated she felt the Bureau could do that much plus more this year; however, she mentioned to the co-chairmen that at some point she may need to come before the Budget Committee.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Flowers who asked what funds the Department of Human Services will use for their share of the consultant agreement. Ms. Garrity responded that she understood that the department would use Medicaid Program funds that can be allocated for consultant fees and there are representatives of the department in attendance if further clarification is needed. Co-Chair Branscum recognized Mark White, the Deputy Director for the Department of Human Services, and Greg Crawford, Assistant Director of the Office of Finance and Administration, to come forward to answer questions. Senator Flowers asked if participation by the Department of Human Services in the cost of the consultant agreement would conflict with the law that restricts the use of funding and federal funding for purposes of setting up or promulgating a program for Medicaid expansion. Mr. White responded that the department did not believe any of these laws would be violated and that the department receives matching funds from the federal government of fifty percent (50%) for all of the department's administrative expenses. Mr. White explained that the department believes the cost of the consultant agreement can be claimed as an administrative expense and at least half of the cost would be paid through federal matching funds. In response to a question regarding prior approval, Mr. White explained that there is no prior approval requirement for the administrative funds, but that expenditures are subject to audit after the fact, which is the normal process for claiming administrative costs.

## Reports of the Standing Subcommittees

### Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the report of the Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee (Exhibit F.1) and recognized Representative Lane Jean to present the report. Representative Jean reported that the Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee met on May 13, 2015 and reviewed a number of rules. Representative Jean reported that a State Barber's Board rule for an extension of increases in fees was deferred to the June subcommittee meeting for the board to provide further information. This concluded the report and there were no questions.

**Representative Lane Jean moved that the report of the Subcommittee on Administrative Rules and Regulations be adopted. The motion was seconded by Senator Rice and was passed by voice vote.**

### Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Bruce Maloch to present the report of the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee (Exhibit F.8). Senator Maloch reported that the PEER Subcommittee met on May 12, 2015 and approved an appropriation transfer request from the Department of Education. The subcommittee also reviewed cash appropriation increase requests, budget classification transfers, and one miscellaneous federal grant request, as well as several contracts between state agencies, and pay plan holding account requests that are attached to the report. Senator Maloch noted that questions were raised in regard to the cash fund appropriation for Arkansas Tech University and the subcommittee received a letter from Arkansas Tech University with additional information concerning the advertising line item. Senator Maloch asked to defer his motion to adopt the report to allow the representatives from Arkansas Tech University to come forward to respond to questions.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Representative Jim Dotson who asked if representatives from Arkansas Tech University could be recognized to answer questions regarding the \$287,000 increase in appropriation for the advertising budget. Co-Chair Branscum recognized the following representatives of Arkansas Tech University, who responded to questions regarding the university's budget and the advertising allocation: Robin Bowen, President, David Mosley, Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Thomas Pennington, the University Counsel.

Representative Kim Hammer asked that the university officials provide him information on what measureable results are being seen, as far as enrollment and other ways, for the money spent for advertising by Arkansas Tech University. Mr. Mosley agreed to provide this information.

**Senator Bruce Maloch moved that, subject to the continued monitoring of these budgets, the report of the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Policy-Making Subcommittee

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the report of the Policy-Making Subcommittee (Exhibit F.9) and recognized Representative George B. McGill to present the report. Representative McGill reported that the Policy-Making Subcommittee met on May 14, 2015 and heard from Senator Jim Hendren concerning a request to authorize funds for the Arkansas Health Reform Legislative Task Force. The subcommittee passed a motion to allocate to the task force the amount of \$50,000 for travel or professional testimony fees. This concluded the report and there were no questions.

**Representative George B. McGill moved that the report of the Policy-Making Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded by Representative Leding and passed by voice vote.**

Review Subcommittee

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the report of the Review Subcommittee (Exhibit F.10) and recognized Senator Bart Hester to present the report. Senator Hester reported that the Review Subcommittee met on May 12, 2015 and that the subcommittee held until the June 9th subcommittee meeting a technical services contract for the Arkansas Geographic Information Office. Senator Hester reported that all other agenda items were reviewed. This concluded the report and there were no questions.

**Senator Bart Hester moved that the report of the Review Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Uvalde Lindsey to present the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee (Exhibit F.11). Senator Lindsey reported that the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee met on May 13, 2015 and reviewed the following: Quarterly Employment Report for the third quarter of fiscal year 2015, which shows a decrease of 72 from the third quarter of fiscal year 2014; reports of grid movements and usage; a report from the Department of Finance and Administration detailing the approval of special entry rates since November 2014; provisional position reports from two and four-year institutions; and a request from the Department of Education for a growth pool position for a deputy commissioner position. Senator Lindsey reported that the subcommittee took action on the quarterly employment reports under the new process for reporting that separates institutions of higher education from state agencies. The subcommittee also approved some swap-pool positions for ALETA and for the Department of Higher Education, as well as a request from the University of Central Arkansas for two professional certification differentials for five public safety officer classifications to allow better control within the university. This concluded the report and there were no questions.

**Senator Uvalde Lindsey moved that the report of the Uniform Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Lottery Oversight Subcommittee

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the report of the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee (Exhibit F.12) and recognized Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr. to present the report. Senator Hickey reported that the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee met on May 14, 2015 and heard an overview of the Arkansas Lottery's activities and operations from Bishop Woosley, Director of the Office of the Arkansas Lottery, and Larry Walther, Director of the Department of Finance and Administration. The Subcommittee also reviewed the Arkansas Lottery's proposed annual budget for fiscal year 2016, reviewed the instant ticket supply agreement between the Arkansas Lottery and Pollard Banknote Limited, and heard an update on the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program from Harold Criswell, Deputy Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher Education. This concluded the report.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Stephanie Flowers who asked that reports on the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, as well as any statistical documentation of the money incoming from all over the state for each county of the state that is submitted to the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee, be provided to her and other interested members. Co-Chair Branscum agreed to ask the staff to provide this information.

**Senator Jimmy Hickey, Jr. moved that the report of the Lottery Oversight Subcommittee be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

**Review of Communications**

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the communications listed as Exhibits H.1 through H.30 and stated that there are several communications that require action by the Legislative Council.

Arkansas Infant and Child Death Review Program

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the Annual Report, dated December 2014, for the Arkansas Infant and Child Death Review Program, submitted by the Arkansas Child Death Review Panel pursuant to A.C.A. § 20-27-1707 (Exhibit H.3). Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this report and seeing none asked if there was a motion.

**Representative Branscum moved that the Annual Report, dated December 2014, for the Arkansas Infant and Child Death Review Program, submitted by the Arkansas Child Death Review Panel pursuant to A.C.A. § 20-27-1707 be referred to the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth and the House Interim Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Arkansas Development Finance Authority

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the request from the Arkansas Development Finance Authority (Exhibit H.6) for the Legislative Council's review of the following Program Fact Sheets, submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 15-5-212(b): Program Fact Sheet CY2015DF002, Higher Education General Obligation Bonds refunding Series 2015; Program Fact Sheet CY2015DF003, Maumelle Foundation for Education, Inc./Academics Plus Charter School Project Capital Improvement Revenue and Refunding Bonds; and Program Fact Sheet CY2015DF004, Baptist Memorial Health Care, Health

Care Revenue Bonds. Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this request and seeing none asked if there was a motion.

**Representative Branscum moved that the Legislative Council file as reviewed the following Program Fact Sheets, submitted by the Arkansas Development Finance Authority pursuant to A.C.A. § 15-5-212(b): Program Fact Sheet CY2015DF002, Higher Education General Obligation Bonds refunding Series 2015; Program Fact Sheet CY2015DF003, Maumelle Foundation for Education, Inc./Academics Plus Charter School Project Capital Improvement Revenue and Refunding Bonds; and Program Fact Sheet CY2015DF004, Baptist Memorial Health Care, Health Care Revenue Bonds. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

#### Arkansas Teacher Retirement System

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the request from the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, submitted pursuant to A.C.A § 19-11-1303, for the Legislative Council's retrospective review of the imminent need partial equity ownership investments with the following: EnCap Energy Capital Fund X, L.P.; and Lone Star Real Estate Fund IV, L.P. (Exhibit H.13a). Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this request and seeing none asked if there was a motion.

**Representative Branscum moved that the Legislative Council file as reviewed the imminent need partial equity ownership investments with EnCap Energy Capital Fund X, L.P.; and Lone Star Real Estate Fund IV, L.P. as submitted by the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the request from the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, submitted pursuant to A.C.A § 19-11-1302, for the Legislative Council's review of the partial equity ownership investments with the following: Circumference Group Core Value Fund, L.P.; Circumference Group Concentrated Positions Fund, L.P.; and Franklin Park Co-Investment Fund, L.P. (Exhibit H.13b). Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this request and seeing none asked if there was a motion.

**Representative Branscum moved that the Legislative Council file as reviewed the partial equity ownership investments with Circumference Group Core Value Fund, L.P.; Circumference Group Concentrated Positions Fund, L.P.; and Franklin Park Co-Investment Fund, L.P. as submitted by the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

#### Arkansas State Police Contract

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the request for the Legislative Council's review of the contract between the Arkansas State Police and JSJ Ford, DBA Allison Ford Lincoln Co., submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 19-11-264 (Exhibit H.18e). Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this request and seeing none asked if there was a motion.

**Representative Branscum moved that the Legislative Council file as reviewed the contract between the Arkansas State Police and JSJ Ford, DBA Allison Ford Lincoln Co., submitted by the Department of Finance and Administration pursuant to A.C.A. § 19-11-264. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Arkansas Department of Health

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the request from the Arkansas Department of Health (Exhibit H.19), submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 21-1-402(b), for the Legislative Council's approval to employ the spouse of a member of the Arkansas General Assembly for the following positions: James H. Bledsoe, spouse of Senator Cecile Bledsoe, for the part-time position of Chief Physician Specialist to become the Medical Consultant for the Emergency Medical Services Section; and ShaRhonda Love, spouse of Representative Fredrick Love, for the position of School Health Director and Section Chief III. Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this request and seeing none asked if there was a motion.

**Representative Branscum moved that the Legislative Council approve the employment by the Arkansas Department of Health of James H. Bledsoe, spouse of Senator Cecile Bledsoe, for the part-time position of Chief Physician Specialist to become the Medical Consultant for the Emergency Medical Services Section; and ShaRhonda Love, spouse of Representative Fredrick Love, for the position of School Health Director and Section Chief III. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

Arkansas Department of Higher Education

Co-Chair Branscum referred members to the request from the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (Exhibit H.21), submitted pursuant to A.C.A. § 6-61-808, for the Legislative Council's approval of the distribution of \$299,374.96 from the Research Development Fund to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville for expenses associated with the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON). Co-Chair Branscum asked if any member had a question or comment on this request and seeing none asked if there was a motion

**Representative Gillam moved that the Legislative Council approve the distribution of \$299,374.96 from the Research Development Fund to the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville for expenses associated with the Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network (ARE-ON). The motion was seconded by Representative John Vines and passed by a voice vote.**

**New Business**

Co-Chair Branscum referred the members to the items of new business and recognized Marty Garrity, Executive Secretary for the Legislative Council, to explain each item. Ms. Garrity explained that there were three emergency actions taken by the co-chairs of the Legislative Council and the co-chairs of the appropriate subcommittees.

Ms. Garrity explained that the first item is the report to the Legislative Council of the emergency review and approval of the of the Arkansas Department of Rural Services' Rural Community Development Grants and County Fair Building Grants for Cycle III of Fiscal Year 2015 (Exhibit I.1).

Ms. Garrity explained that the second item is the report to the Legislative Council for the emergency review and approval of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality's request for Special Entry



Rates for two candidates for the Air Division Manager and the Assistant Air Division Manager (Exhibit I.2).

Ms. Garrity explained that the third item is the report to the Legislative Council of the emergency review and approval of the consultant services contract between IHS Global, Inc. and the Bureau of Legislative Research for a review of the Amendment 82 project that will be coming up in the proposed special session (Exhibit I.3).

Ms. Garrity explained that the fourth item of new business was a request made by Representative David Meeks during the meeting of the Health Reform Legislative Task Force to live stream future meetings of the task force.

Co-Chair Branscum noted that there is a special cost associated with the live streaming of the task force meetings and he recognized Representative David Meeks to explain his request. Representative Meeks stated he had heard requests from the public regarding the live streaming of the meetings. Representative Meeks stated that he had attempted to accomplish this by using his phone to send a video to USTREAM, and that while the picture was good, the phone microphone was not able to pick up all of the discussion. Representative Meeks explained that it would require some specialized equipment in order for the audio to be viable. Representative Meeks answered questions from the committee members concerning the cost associated with live streaming the meetings and the number of people who could be expected to access the video.

Ms. Garrity was recognized to respond to a question regarding the cost associated with the live streaming of the Lieutenant Governor's meetings to which she responded that she had contacted the same company used to live stream those meetings and that approximately ten (10) people per hour viewed those meetings.

Co-Chair Branscum recognized Representative Meeks for a motion. **Representative Meeks moved that the Legislative Council approve the live streaming of the Health Reform Legislative Task Force meetings or, in the alternative, have Committee Room A in the Big Mac Building outfitted with live streaming equipment.**

Co-Chair Branscum stated that the outfitting of Committee Room A was a different discussion for a different day and then recognized Representative Kim Hammer for a question. Representative Hammer asked if the task force meetings are being recorded and archived. Ms. Garrity responded that the meetings are recorded and the recordings are subject to the Freedom of Information Act. She further explained the recordings are kept and an audio recording is available upon request, but the recordings are not published on the web page. Representative Hammer asked if the recordings could be published on the web page, to which Ms. Garrity stated that the Bureau's Chief Information Officer has indicated that size of the file may be a problem in that it could possibly slow down access to the web site. There were no further questions.

**Co-Chair Branscum recognized Representative David Meeks who moved that the Legislative Council approve the live streaming of the Health Reform Legislative Task Force or request the Bureau of Legislative Research to look at conducting the live streaming of the meetings.**

Co Chair Branscum stated that he would like the motion to include a cost figure. **Representative David Meeks moved that the Legislative Council approve the live streaming of the Health**

**Reform Legislative Task Force meetings for a cost of no more than a thousand dollars (\$1,000) per meeting. The motion was seconded by Representative Greg Leding and failed upon a voice vote.**

### **New Interim Study Proposals and Interim Resolutions**

Co-Chair Branscum referred the members to the new interim study proposals (Exhibit J.1 through Exhibit J.18) and the new interim resolution (Exhibit J.19) in their packets and explained the chair would accept a motion for all of the interim study proposals and a separate motion for the interim resolution. Co-Chair Branscum asked members to review these items and then asked if there was a motion.

**Co-Chair Branscum recognized Senator Linda Chesterfield who moved that the interim study proposals listed as Exhibit J.1 through Exhibit J.18 be referred to the appropriate interim committee for study. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

The interim study proposals were referred as indicated below.

#### Referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Economic Development

Interim Study Proposal 2015-136 (Exhibit J.17), by Senator Bryan King, to transfer the administration of rice assessments to the Secretary of the Arkansas Agriculture Department and to allow for the employment or retention of auditors to monitor rice assessments.

#### Referred to the House Committee on Education

1. Interim Study Proposal 2015-005 (Exhibit J.2), by Representative James Sturch, requesting the Legislative Council direct the House Committee on Education to conduct a study of the need for and benefit of having a school psychology specialist employed in school districts.
2. Interim Study Proposal 2015-113 (H. B. 1734) (Exhibit J.7), by Representative Jim Dotson, to promote the free market competition of student course materials; and to prohibit the cost of student course materials from being added to a student's billing account.

#### Referred to the Senate Committee on Education

Interim Study Proposal 2015-009 (Exhibit J.3), by Senator Jon Woods, that the Arkansas Legislative Council study the possibility of state regulation of interscholastic activities in lieu of regulation by the AAA, including without limitation the possibility of charging the Department of Education with regulating interscholastic activities.

Referred to the House Committee on Judiciary

1. Interim Study Proposal 2015-129 (H. B. 1631) (Exhibit J.10), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act concerning the award of alimony and modification of an award of alimony in a divorce case where domestic abuse has occurred.
2. Interim Study Proposal 2015-130 (H. B. 1632) (Exhibit J.11), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act to regulate insurance claim practices involving domestic abuse.
3. Interim Study Proposal 2015-131 (H. B. 1684) (Exhibit J.12), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act to establish a public database for persons convicted of a serious domestic offense and to create a criminal offense for noncompliance with certain requirements.
4. Interim Study Proposal 2015-132 (H. B. 1741) (Exhibit J.13), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act concerning the Governor's ability to pardon, commute a sentence, or grant clemency when a convicted felon has a terminal medical diagnosis.
5. Interim Study Proposal 2015-133 (H. B. 1929) (Exhibit J.14), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act concerning the sentences of life and life without the possibility of parole for the commission of a criminal offense.
6. Interim Study Proposal 2015-134 (H. B. 1933) (Exhibit J.15), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act concerning medical release of an inmate from the Department of Correction.
7. Interim Study Proposal 2015-135 (Exhibit J.16), by Representative Justin Boyd, that the Arkansas Legislative Council refer to the House Committee on Judiciary a request to study the circumstances concerning and procedures for fingerprinting and photographing a juvenile for law enforcement purposes, as well as the requirements and process for sealing or expunging those records.

Referred to the to the Local 911 Systems Blue Ribbon Committee

Interim Study Proposal 2015-104 (H. B. 1619) (Exhibit J.6), by Representative Brent Talley, an act permitting the operation of a 911 emergency response system by a private entity.

Referred to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor

1. Interim Study Proposal 2015-030 (Exhibit J.4), by Representative David Whitaker, that the Arkansas Legislative Council refer to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor this proposal to encourage antibiotic stewardship programs throughout the state.

Referred to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor (Continued)

2. Interim Study Proposal 2015-047 (Exhibit J.5), by Representative Donnie Copeland, that the Arkansas Legislative Council refer to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor this proposal to study immunization requirements for adult employees of a private hospital, medical facility, or private employer and make recommendations for future legislation.
3. Interim Study Proposal 2015-127 (H. B. 1142) (Exhibit J.8), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act to create the Arkansas Surgical Technologists Act and to establish the registration of surgical technologists.

Referred to the House Revenue and Taxation Committee

Interim Study Proposal 2015-128 (H. B. 1451) (Exhibit J.9), by Representative Charlotte V. Douglas, an act to amend definitions used for purposes of sales and use taxes and to exclude manufacturer rebates on motor vehicles from the definitions used for purposes of determining sales and use taxes.

Referred to the Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs

1. Interim Study Proposal 2015-001 (Exhibit J.1), by Senator Jeremy Hutchinson, requesting that the Arkansas Legislative Council refer to the Senate State Agencies Committee an interim study to evaluate the current occupational licensing practices within existing state boards and commissions and the feasibility of consolidating existing practices in order to create a single state licensing agency.
2. Interim Study Proposal 2015-137 (Exhibit J.18), by Senator Bryan King, an act to transfer the Division of County Operations from the Department of Human Services.

**Co-Chair Branscum recognized Representative Greg Leding who moved that Interim Resolution 2015-002 be adopted. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.**

**Adjournment**

At 9:50 a.m., the meeting was adjourned until June 12, 2015 as there was no further business to come before the Legislative Council.

Respectfully submitted,

ATTEST:

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Representative David L. Branscum  
Co-Chair, House

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Marty Garrity  
Executive Secretary