

**Report of the Higher Education Subcommittee
of the
Arkansas Legislative Council**

August 21, 2009

Mr. Chairmen:

Your Higher Education Subcommittee met jointly with the House Higher Education Subcommittee of the Education Committee at the Henderson State University campus on June 23rd, 2009, and reports the discussion and consideration of the following presentations and items by the noted speakers:

A. Presentations Concerning the Arkadelphia College Preparatory Academy by Dr. Charles Welch, President, Henderson State University; Mr. Donnie Whitten, Superintendent, Arkadelphia School District; Ms. Paulette Blacknall, Director, Southwest Arkansas Education Renewal Zone; Mr. Phil Baldwin, Chief Executive Officer, Southern Bancorp; Dr. Wesley Kluck, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, Ouachita Baptist University; and Ms. Mary Elizabeth Eldridge, Director of Programs, Ross Foundation

B. Initial Discussion of Interim Study Proposal 2009-003, AN ACT TO CREATE A LOAN PROGRAM FOR OUT-OF-STATE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION AND TO PROVIDE FOR FORGIVENESS OF LOANS FOR PROFESSIONALS WHO PRACTICE IN ARKANSAS FOR NO LESS THAN FIVE (5) YEARS, Representative Steven Breedlove

C. Discussion of Issues Related to Education Renewal Zones, Dr. Calvin Johnson, Dean, School of Education, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

D. Discussion of Issues Related to Concurrent Enrollment, Dr. Jim Purcell, Director, Arkansas Department of Higher Education

E. Major Funding for Fiscal Years 2008-09 and 2009-10

F. Update on the Final Report of the Task Force on Higher Education Remediation, Retention and Graduation Rates, Representative Johnnie Roebuck

Respectfully submitted,

Senator Gilbert Baker, Co-Chair

Representative Johnnie Roebuck, Co-Chair