

# ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON WORKFORCE EDUCATION EXCELLENCE



Senator Jane English  
Senate Chair

Representative Bruce Cozart  
House Chair

December 11, 2017

The Honorable Linda Chesterfield, Senate Co-Chair  
The Honorable George McGill, House Co-Chair  
Arkansas Legislative Council - Policy Making Subcommittee  
Room 315, State Capitol  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Chesterfield and Representative McGill:

As Co-Chairs of the Legislative Task Force on Workforce Education Excellence (Task Force), we are writing to respectfully request that consideration be given at the December 14, 2017, meeting of the Arkansas Legislative Council (ALC)-Policy Making Subcommittee to increasing the Per Diem, Mileage, and Expenses allocation for the Task Force from \$10,000 to a total of \$25,000 for the 2017-2018 biennium.

The Task Force was created pursuant to the provisions of Act 951 of 2017. It consists of 16 members, 10 members drawn from the General Assembly and 6 representatives from business and industry. The members of the General Assembly are paid per diem and mileage as authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim committees of the General Assembly. The non-legislative members are reimbursed their actual expenses and mileage at the state employee rate through the Arkansas Department of Career Education. Only one non-legislative member has sought this reimbursement.

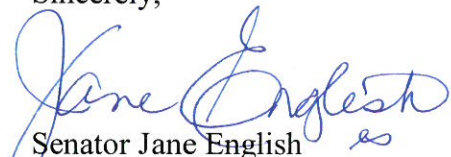
The Task Force's charge includes (1) reviewing outcomes of secondary and postsecondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) and workforce programs, (2) reviewing the current and future workforce needs of the state, (3) recommending strategies to meet the state's workforce need, (4) researching methods to create an inter-agency data sharing plan, and (5) reviewing ways to reduce duplication and align CTE and workforce development programs. The Task Force's final report shall be filed with the legislative and executive branches by September 1, 2018.


Due to the extensive meeting schedule and the broad range of issues under review by the Task Force, there is high attendance by members of the General Assembly, both Task Force members and other interested members, which impacts the Per Diem, Mileage, and Expense funds available to the Task Force.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact either of us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Senator Jane English  
Co-Chair

  
Representative Bruce Cozart  
Co-Chair

cc: Senator Bill Sample, Co-Chair, Arkansas Legislative Council  
Representative Jim Dotson, Co-Chair, Arkansas Legislative Council  
Ms. Jill Thayer, Legal Counsel to the Director, Bureau of Legislative Research  
Ms. Andrea Barksdale, Chief Fiscal Officer, Bureau of Legislative Research  
Ms. Vicki Freeburn, Administrative Coordinator, Bureau of Legislative Research