

MINUTES

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Meeting Jointly

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

The Senate and House Committees on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs met jointly on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 2:15 PM in Room A of the Multi-Agency Complex.

Representative Lea called the meeting to order.

Legislators in Attendance

The following legislators attended: Senators Eddie Joe Williams, Chair; Joyce Elliott, Jane English, Jim Hendren, Jimmy Hickey, Bobby Pierce, Jason Rapert, and Robert Thompson. Representatives Andrea Lea, Chair; Butch Wilkins, Vice Chair; Randy Alexander, Charles Armstrong, Nate Bell, Kenneth Bragg, Jim Dotson, Kim Hammer, Justin Harris, Fonda Hawthorne, Mary Hickerson, Karen Hopper, Douglas House, Jeremy Hutchison, Josh Miller, John Payton, John Vines and Jeff Wardlaw.

Presentation of the Compact of a Balanced Budget Amendment
[EXHIBITS B1-B7, ATTACHMENT 1]

Nick Dranias, Director of Policy Development and Constitutional Government, Goldwater Institute, presented a Powerpoint and urged committee members to support the Compact approach to creating a balanced federal government budget. Alaska, Arizona, and Georgia have proclaimed support for the Compact approach; and Mr. Dranias hopes Arkansas will join the effort. He provided details on the Balanced Budget Amendment, and an overview of how the Compact will deliver an amendment that divides the federal government's power. He cited these details as reasons for the Compact Balanced Budget being especially powerful:

- CBB imposes scarcity on debt.
- CBB restores a lost check and balance system.
- CBB provides flexibility without loopholes.
- CBB ensures accountability and creates a balanced enforcement measure
- CBB incentivizes spending reductions and better tax policies

Representative Bell said Arkansas is currently involved with several interstate Compacts for things like prisoner extradition and insurance regulations.

With no further business, the committees adjourned at 3:15 PM.