

AGENDA
Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and Information Technology
Joint Committee on Energy
Meeting Jointly

Tuesday, August 1, 2023
10:00 AM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sen. Mark Johnson, Co-Chair
Sen. Ben Gilmore, Co-Chair
Sen. Matt McKee, Vice-Chair
Sen. Justin Boyd, Vice-Chair
Sen. Linda Chesterfield
Sen. Stephanie Flowers
Sen. Missy Irvin
Sen. Ronald Caldwell
Sen. Jane English
Sen. Gary Stubblefield
Sen. Terry Rice
Sen. Blake Johnson
Sen. Ricky Hill
Sen. Reginald Murdock
Sen. Alan Clark

Rep. Stephen Meeks, Co-Chair
Rep. Rick Beck, Co-Chair
Rep. Justin Gonzales, Vice-Chair
Rep. Jeremy Wooldridge, Vice-Chair
Rep. David Whitaker
Rep. Ron McNair
Rep. Jack Ladyman
Rep. Vivian Flowers
Rep. Karilyn Brown
Rep. Jack Fortner
Rep. Fred Allen
Rep. Austin McCollum
Rep. Sonia Eubanks Barker
Rep. Steve Hollowell
Rep. Danny Watson

Rep. Roger D. Lynch
Rep. Aaron Pilkington
Rep. Stan Berry
Rep. Denise Garner
Rep. Denise Jones Ennett
Rep. Keith Brooks
Rep. John P. Carr
Rep. Grant Hodges
Rep. RJ Hawk
Rep. Trey Steimel

- A. Call to Order
- B. Consideration to Approve the May 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes **[Exhibit B]**
- C. Videos: What is Bitcoin? **[Exhibit C]**
What is Bitcoin Mining?
- D. Discussion Act 851 of 2023: An act to create the Arkansas Data Centers Act of 2023; To clarify the regulation of the digital asset of mining business; and for other purposes. **[Exhibit D]**
 - Representative Rick McClure
- E. Presentation by Arkansas Blockchain Council
 - Tom Harford, Founder and Board Member, Arkansas Blockchain Council
- F. Discussion of Crypto Mining and Energy Consumption
 1. John Bethel, Director of Public Affairs, Entergy Arkansas
 2. Michael Marchand, Executive Director, Public Service Commission
- G. Foreign Nations Accessibility to Cryptocurrency Assets
 1. Secretary Hugh McDonald, Department of Commerce
 2. Jim Hudson, Chief of Staff, Department of Commerce
 3. Clint O'Neal, Executive Director, Arkansas Economic Development Commission

Note: All exhibits for this meeting are available by electronic means and are accessible on the General Assembly's website at www.arkleg.state.ar.us

Notice: Silence your cell phones. Keep your personal conversations to a minimum. Observe restrictions designating areas as *'Members and Staff Only'*.

H. Discussion of Tax Implications of Cryptocurrency **[Exhibit H]**

- Paul Gehring, Assistant Commissioner of Revenue Policy & Legal, Department of Finance and Administration

I. Review of Potential Environmental Concerns with Crypto Mining Sites

1. Caleb Osborne, Chief Administrator of the Environment, Division of Environmental Quality
2. Bailey Taylor, Associate Environment Administrator, Department of Energy & Environment

J. Public Comment

K. Other Business

L. Adjournment