

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001

HR 1026

4
5 By: Representative Lendall
6
7

8 HOUSE RESOLUTION

9 REQUESTING THE HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
10 HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE
11 IMPACT OF ADOPTING THE FEDERAL DEFINITION OF
12 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN ARKANSAS.
13

14 Subtitle

15 FOR A STUDY ON THE NEED TO AMEND THE
16 DEFINITION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY
17 IN ARKANSAS.
18
19

20 WHEREAS, individuals with developmental disabilities are important to
21 the people of the State of Arkansas; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the Arkansas definition of "developmental disability" is based
24 on a categorical approach specifying the presence of cerebral palsy,
25 epilepsy, autism or mental retardation under § 20-48-101; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the federal definition of "developmental disability" is
28 primarily based on a functional approach, under 45 U.S.C. § 6001(8); and
29

30 WHEREAS, there has not been a comprehensive comparison of Arkansas and
31 federal laws concerning individuals with developmental disabilities since
32 1988; and
33

34 WHEREAS, a study should be made to determine the need for changes in
35 Arkansas law in order to provide reasonably reliable estimates of the number
36 of persons in Arkansas who satisfy the current Arkansas definition of

1 "developmental disability", and who would satisfy the federal definition of
2 the term, and of their probable demand for publicly-supported services; and

3
4 WHEREAS, the study should make recommendations for possible legislative
5 changes needed to better serve Arkansas' individuals with developmental
6 disabilities so that individuals with disabilities other than autism, mental
7 retardation, cerebral palsy and epilepsy might also be eligible for publicly-
8 supported services.

9
10 NOW THEREFORE,
11 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-THIRD GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

13
14 THAT the House Interim Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor
15 study the need to amend Arkansas law pertaining to the definition of
16 developmental disability.