

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2011

4
5 By: Representatives Woods, Rainey, M. Martin

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE
10 TASK FORCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

13 TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS
14 CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE.

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

19 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE CODIFIED.

Title.

21 This act shall be known as the "Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Task Force
22 Act".

Findings.

25 In establishing the Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Task Force, the
26 General Assembly finds that:

27 (1) Policy development for cyberinfrastructure is crucial to the
28 future of the state and its citizens and that the General Assembly must
29 approach cyberinfrastructure policy development thoughtfully and consider
30 both near term and strategic goals in its deliberations; and

31 (2) The state will benefit from an improved understanding of
32 cyberinfrastructure and the recommendation of cyberinfrastructure policies
33 to:

34 (A) Energize the economic development system of the state;

35 and

36 (B) Integrate reliance on twenty-first-century



1 cyberinfrastructure in education, research, and business creation, including
2 specifically commercialization of value-added products and services that
3 increase gross state product, per capita income, and job and wealth creation
4 into the state’s economic development strategies.

5
6 Definitions.

7 (a) As used in this act, "cyberinfrastructure" means the technological
8 infrastructure that enables scientific inquiry.

9 (b) As used in this act, "cyberinfrastructure" includes shared high-
10 performance computing, data storage systems, data repositories and advanced
11 instruments, data center facilities, visualization environments, and people,
12 all linked together by software and advanced networks to improve and enable
13 breakthroughs not otherwise possible.

14
15 Cyberinfrastructure Task Force.

16 (a) There is created a legislative committee to be known as the
17 “Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Task Force”, to be composed of:

18 (1) The Director of the Department of Finance and Administration
19 or his or her designee;

20 (2) The Director of the Department of Information Systems or his
21 or her designee;

22 (3) The President of Arkansas Science and Technology Authority
23 or his or her designee;

24 (4) The Chair or his or her designee and the Vice-Chair or his
25 or her designee of the Senate Committee on Transportation, Technology, and
26 Legislative Affairs;

27 (5) The Chair or his or her designee and the Vice-Chair or his
28 or her designee of the House Committee on Advanced Communications and
29 Information Technology;

30 (6) Two (2) members appointed by the President Pro-Tempore of
31 the Senate from a list submitted by the Arkansas Broadband Advisory Council
32 of four (4) persons who represent the state’s information technology and
33 telecommunications industry;

34 (7) Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the House from a
35 list submitted by the Connect-Arkansas Board of Directors of four (4) persons
36 who represent the state’s information technology and telecommunications

1 industry; and

2 (8)(A) Six (6) members appointed jointly by the President Pro-
 3 Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House from a list submitted by
 4 the Arkansas Research Alliance Board of Directors of ten (10) persons.

5 (B) The list shall include persons from the five (5)
 6 research universities who have recognized expertise in the following areas:

7 (i) Large scale data storage;

8 (ii) Optical networks;

9 (iii) High performance computing;

10 (iv) Computer visualization; or

11 (v) Administrative computing.

12 (C) At least one (1) person shall be appointed from each
 13 of the five (5) research universities.

14 (b) If a vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy shall be filled
 15 in the same manner as the original appointment.

16 (c) The Cochairs of the Joint Committee on Advanced Communications and
 17 Information Technology shall serve as cochairs of the task force and shall
 18 call meetings as appropriate.

19 (d)(1) The task force may create advisory committees.

20 (2) The membership of an advisory committee may include:

21 (A) Members and staff of the task force; and

22 (B) Individuals not affiliated with the task force.

23 (3) Members of the advisory committees shall serve at the
 24 pleasure of the task force without compensation.

25
 26 Purpose.

27 The purpose of the General Assembly in establishing the Arkansas
 28 Cyberinfrastructure Task Force is to:

29 (1) Explore strategies and recommend policies for improving
 30 utilization of the state's cyberinfrastructure by the state and its political
 31 subdivisions for the benefit of all citizens;

32 (2) Review the recommendations regarding cyberinfrastructure and
 33 information technology from previous legislative task forces including
 34 without limitation the Economic Development Commission's Strategic Plan for
 35 Economic Development, the final report of the Task Force for the 21st Century
 36 Economy, and the 2008 Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Strategic Plan;

1 (3) Assess the state’s cyberinfrastructure including without
 2 limitation administrative computing, high-performance computing, data storage
 3 systems, data repositories, advanced instrumentation, data center facilities,
 4 visualization environments, the talent necessary to operate the
 5 cyberinfrastructure and the software and advanced networks that link them
 6 together;

7 (4) Assess current efforts to improve the utilization of
 8 cyberinfrastructure by the public sector and recommend a coordinated tactical
 9 and strategic plan of action;

10 (5) Define in broad terms the benefits of the essential
 11 applications of the state that cyberinfrastructure in the twenty-first
 12 century enables and supports;

13 (6) Explore strategic ways and means of financially supporting
 14 the state’s cyberinfrastructure;

15 (7) Propose and recommend cyberinfrastructure;

16 (8) Define the role and scope of cyberinfrastructure in the
 17 economic development of Arkansas;

18 (9) Define the cyberinfrastructure programs and services needed
 19 for the state and its communities to be globally competitive within the role
 20 and scope of economic development in the twenty-first century;

21 (10) Study the organizational structure necessary for efficient
 22 and effective state cyberinfrastructure that supports economic development;

23 (11) Explore strategies for improving the utilization of
 24 information technology by the state and its political subdivisions;

25 (12) Seek to actively involve the private sector as partners in
 26 the process of enhancing the utilization of technology by the public sector
 27 throughout the state;

28 (13) Assess current efforts and develop a coordinated plan of
 29 action to improve the utilization of technology by the public sector;

30 (14) Create robust cyberinfrastructure throughout the state and
 31 an environment that supports and complements related technology efforts and
 32 applications in the state; and

33 (15) Propose and recommend legislation for the 2011 Regular
 34 Session of the General Assembly.

35
 36 Report.

1 The Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Task Force shall submit a report and
2 its recommendations for any proposed legislation to the Joint Committee on
3 Advanced Communications and Information Technology and the Legislative
4 Council on or before March 1, 2010.

5
6 Staff support.

7 (a) Staff support for the Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Task Force
8 shall be provided by the Bureau of Legislative Research.

9 (b) Upon written request of the Cochairs of the Arkansas
10 Cyberinfrastructure Task Force, additional support shall be provided by
11 agencies of state government.

12
13 Per diem.

14 (a) Legislative members of the Arkansas Cyberinfrastructure Task Force
15 shall be paid per diem and mileage in the manner authorized by law for
16 attendance at meetings of interim committees of the General Assembly.

17 (b) Nonlegislative members of the task force shall receive per diem
18 and mileage at the rate authorized by law for attendance at meetings of
19 interim committees of the General Assembly if funds are available and
20 appropriated by the General Assembly to the pay per diem and mileage to
21 nonlegislative members of the task force.