

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: S3/23/11
A Bill

SENATE BILL 812

5 By: Senator Elliott
6 By: Representatives Love, Fielding
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE A STUDY TO EXPLORE HOW TO *MAXIMIZE*
10 *USE OF* THE ARKANSAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION,
11 RURAL *SERVICES, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS,* OTHER
12 PUBLIC AGENCIES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND THE PRIVATE
13 SECTOR IN ADDRESSING QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES IN
14 UNDERSERVED AREAS AND TO ATTRACT AND PROMOTE ECONOMIC
15 DEVELOPMENT IN THESE UNDERSERVED AREAS; AND FOR OTHER
16 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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20 CREATE A STUDY TO EXPLORE HOW TO USE THE
21 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, RURAL
22 SERVICES, PUBLIC AGENCIES, AND PUBLIC AND
23 PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS IN ADDRESSING
24 QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES AND ECONOMIC
25 DEVELOPMENT IN UNDERSERVED AREAS.
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28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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30 *SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY*

31 *(a) The purpose of this act is to create a study to:*

32 *(1) Explore how to maximize the use of the Arkansas Economic*
33 *Development Commission, rural services, economic development districts, other*
34 *public agencies and organizations, and the private sector in addressing:*

35 *(A) Quality-of-life issues in underserved areas, including*
36 *without limitation:*



- 1 (i) Access to housing;
2 (ii) Access to social and recreational outlets, both
3 indoor and outdoor;
4 (iii) Access to comprehensive healthcare;
5 (iv) Access to a variety of high-quality, healthy
6 food choices;
7 (v) Access to shopping choices;
8 (vi) Deliberate development of community across
9 boundaries of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, socioeconomic status, age,
10 geography, and other barriers;
11 (vii) Local plans to support restorative justice;
12 (viii) Plans for expansive, inclusive civic
13 participation; and
14 (ix) Access to transportation;
15 (B) Promotion of economic opportunity in underserved
16 areas;
17 (C) Capacity-building issues across traditional lines of
18 race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, age, geography, and other
19 boundaries, including without limitation:
20 (i) Leadership building;
21 (ii) Deliberate and sustained power-sharing;
22 (iii) Planning; and
23 (iv) Capitalism literacy;
24 (D) Internet marketing; and
25 (E) Other opportunities for exploration, including without
26 limitation:
27 (i) Implementation of differentiated diagnosis and
28 response to discover and support economic opportunity;
29 (ii) Evaluation of efforts by public agencies and
30 both the private and nonprofit sectors to initiate and support economic
31 opportunities;
32 (iii) Assessment of cooperative efforts among areas
33 with similar and seemingly dissimilar interests; and
34 (iv) Studying how to grow from our past, change
35 direction, rise to new heights, and improve quality of life and economic
36 opportunity for underserved areas by considering the following initiatives:

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- (a) Conducting talent and dream audits;
- (b) Supporting place-bound possibilities;
- (c) Promoting necessity-entrepreneurship; and
- (d) Exploring creative economy; and

(2) Request that the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, rural services, economic development districts, other public agencies and organizations, and the private sector determine the extent to which they are positioned to respond to the needs of underserved areas.

(b) As used in this section, "underserved" means an area or a population that has inadequate, insufficient, or under-resourced services.

/s/Elliott