

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

As Engrossed: S3/23/11 S3/29/11

A Bill

SENATE BILL 812

5 By: Senators Elliott, *G. Jeffress, S. Flowers, Luker, Salmon, Laverty, J. Jeffress, Fletcher, D. Wyatt, S.*
6 *Harrelson, Crumbly, L. Chesterfield*
7 By: Representatives Love, Fielding, *G. Smith, Lenderman, B. Wilkins, Murdock, E. Elliott, Walker,*
8 *Leding, H. Wilkins*
9

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

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

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

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



1 (A) Quality-of-life issues in underserved areas, including
2 without limitation:

3 (i) Access to housing;

4 (ii) Access to social and recreational outlets, both
5 indoor and outdoor;

6 (iii) Access to comprehensive healthcare;

7 (iv) Access to a variety of high-quality, healthy
8 food choices;

9 (v) Access to shopping choices;

10 (vi) Deliberate development of community across
11 boundaries of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, socioeconomic status, age,
12 geography, and other barriers;

13 (vii) Local plans to support restorative justice;

14 (viii) Plans for expansive, inclusive civic
15 participation; and

16 (ix) Access to transportation;

17 (B) Promotion of economic opportunity in underserved
18 areas;

19 (C) Capacity-building issues across traditional lines of
20 race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, age, geography, and other
21 boundaries, including without limitation:

22 (i) Leadership building;

23 (ii) Deliberate and sustained power-sharing;

24 (iii) Planning; and

25 (iv) Capitalism literacy;

26 (D) Internet marketing; and

27 (E) Other opportunities for exploration, including without
28 limitation:

29 (i) Implementation of differentiated diagnosis and
30 response to discover and support economic opportunity;

31 (ii) Evaluation of efforts by public agencies and
32 both the private and nonprofit sectors to initiate and support economic
33 opportunities;

34 (iii) Assessment of cooperative efforts among areas
35 with similar and seemingly dissimilar interests; and

36 (iv) Studying how to grow from our past, change

1 direction, rise to new heights, and improve quality of life and economic
2 opportunity for underserved areas by considering the following initiatives:

3 (a) Conducting talent and dream audits;

4 (b) Supporting place-bound possibilities;

5 (c) Promoting necessity-entrepreneurship; and

6 (d) Exploring creative economy; and

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

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

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14 /s/Elliott
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