

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1258

5 By: Representatives Pitsch, Baltz, D. Douglas, Hickerson, Jean, Sturch, Wardlaw
6 By: Senator Files
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO RE-ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON
10 INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCE; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO RE-ESTABLISH THE LEGISLATIVE TASK
16 FORCE ON INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION AND
17 COMMERCE.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative Task Force on Intermodal
23 Transportation and Commerce.

24 (a) The Legislative Task Force on Intermodal Transportation and
25 Commerce is re-established.

26 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members who shall be
27 appointed by July 1, 2015:

28 (1) One (1) member of the Senate to be appointed as co-chair of
29 the task force by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

30 (2) One (1) member of the House of Representatives to be
31 appointed as co-chair of the task force by the Speaker of the House of
32 Representatives;

33 (3) Two (2) current or past members of the House Committee on
34 Public Transportation to be appointed by the Chair of the House Committee on
35 Public Transportation;

36 (4) Two (2) current or past members of the Senate Committee on



1 Public Transportation, Technology, and Legislative Affairs to be appointed by
2 the Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Transportation, Technology, and
3 Legislative Affairs;

4 (5) Two (2) members of the Arkansas-Oklahoma Port Operators
5 Association, one (1) to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
6 Representatives and one (1) by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

7 (6) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Waterways Commission
8 or his or her designee;

9 (7) The Director of Highways and Transportation of the Arkansas
10 State Highway and Transportation Department or his or her designee;

11 (8) The Commissioner of State Lands or his or her designee;

12 (9) A representative of the Arkansas Trucking Association to be
13 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

14 (10) A representative of the railroad industry to be appointed
15 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

16 (11) Two (2) representatives of a local regional intermodal
17 transportation authority to be appointed by the Commissioner of State Lands;

18 (12) The Director of the Arkansas Department of Aeronautics or
19 his or her designee; and

20 (13) One (1) representative from a metropolitan planning
21 organization in the state to be appointed by the Director of Highways and
22 Transportation of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department.

23 (14) One (1) representative from the Arkansas Economic
24 Development Commission to be appointed by the Executive Director of the
25 Arkansas Economic Development Commission.

26 (c) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same manner as
27 the initial appointment.

28 (d) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff support for
29 the task force.

30 (e) The task force shall:

31 (1) Explore the creation of a new Arkansas Department of
32 Transportation which will have combined responsibility for highways,
33 waterways and ports, rail, and aeronautics;

34 (2) Explore the following specific recommendations relating to
35 intermodal transportation and commerce for review, consideration, and
36 implementation by the General Assembly;

1 (A) Identify the relevant constitutional and legislative
2 constraints involved in the creation of a new Arkansas Department of
3 Transportation with regard to the constitutionally created State Highway
4 Commission and the existing legislatively created Arkansas Waterways
5 Commission and Arkansas Department of Aeronautics, and the possibility of
6 modal divisions;

7 (B) Identify funding sources for a new Arkansas Department
8 of Transportation to promote and develop a coordinated multimodal
9 transportation system;

10 (C) Develop a plan for a seamless and cost-effective
11 transition into the newly structured Arkansas Department of Transportation;

12 (D) Determine the division or agency responsible for
13 intermodal development and oversight;

14 (E) Establish a coordinating council for regional
15 intermodal transportation authorities in order to provide guidance,
16 oversight, and coordination and promote multimodal collaboration; and

17 (F) Explore options to leverage existing modal assets for
18 development of economic opportunities; and

19 (3) Report its findings and recommendations no later than
20 December 1, 2016, to the House Committee on Public Transportation and the
21 Senate Committee on Public Transportation, Technology, and Legislative
22 Affairs.

23 (f) Legislative members of the task force shall be paid per diem and
24 mileage in the manner authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim
25 committees of the General Assembly.

26 (g) Regular meetings will be held monthly through the term of the
27 existence of the task force.

28 (h) The task force shall expire the day after reporting its findings
29 and recommendations under subdivision (e)(3) of this section.

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