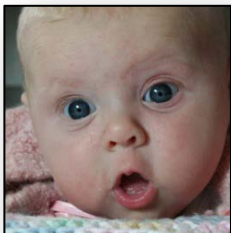


# Weekly Legislative Summary

## 2011 General Session of the Arkansas State Legislature

Feb. 21-25



<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Child Welfare</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Early Childhood Education</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Economic Self Sufficiency</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Education</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Health</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>Immigration</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Juvenile Justice</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>Other</b> .....	<b>22</b>
<b>Substance Abuse</b> .....	<b>24</b>
<b>Tax</b> .....	<b>27</b>

## Introduction

There was hardly a dull moment at the Capitol last week with bills impacting kids in multiple committees on Wednesday. The good news for kids and families was in the Senate, which passed two great bills for kids, while the House rejected one that would make it more difficult for all families to access critical services. Tax cuts and budget questions continue to heat up.

[SB138](#), the “Positive Youth Development Act” sponsored by Sen. Johnny Key, passed [30-1](#) and now moves to the House. It creates a structure for a statewide afterschool program modeled after the state pre-k program, Arkansas Better Chance.

[Senate Bill 359](#), sponsored by Sen. David Johnson, cleared the Senate by a vote of [25-7](#). This bill would require all Arkansas water systems serving more than 5,000 people to fluoridate their water which would greatly reduce tooth decay for all Arkansans—but especially for kids. Tooth decay is a chronic condition of childhood and is associated with difficulty sleeping, eating, learning and getting proper nutrition. Research shows that fluoridation reduces tooth decay by up to 40 percent. And it saves the state taxpayers by lowering our state’s Medicaid costs and reducing families’ health care expenses.

The House State Agencies committee blocked [HB1292](#), which would have required more documentation of citizenship in order to receive any public benefits and ended prenatal care for immigrant moms. After hours of debate, the committee voted to keep the measure in committee on a 8 to 9 vote. In other good news for children’s health, [HB1315](#), which would require insurance companies to cover treatment for autism, passed the House and is headed to the Senate.

Proposed tax cuts continued last week, with the Senate passing a reduction of sales taxes on vehicles ([SB274](#)), natural gas and electricity ([SB275](#)), and Gov. Mike Beebe’s continued cut of the grocery tax ([SB276](#)).

Among many of the new bills filed this week is one that would close corporate tax loopholes that send critical revenues out of state: [HB1495](#), sponsored by Rep. Nichols. Watch for a committee hearing on this bill in the coming weeks.

Each section below outlines a brief list of bills related to children and families along with a brief description and bill status. Remember to visit AACF's website to sign up for e-alerts and watch legislative happenings, read our [ARVoices blog](#), which will provide more regular session updates on key issues, and follow us on [twitter](#).

## **Child Welfare**

### **HB1116 - D. Hutchinson**

TO PROMOTE THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF NEWBORNS BY REQUIRING A CHILD MALTREATMENT CENTRAL REGISTRY CHECK FOR ALL BIRTHING MOTHERS AT THE TIME OF FILING THE CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH.

Thursday January 13th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative & Military Affairs.

### **HB1220 - Biviano**

TO CLARIFY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO UTILIZE FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHILDREN IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM.

Monday January 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative & Military Affairs.

### **HB1451 - Summers**

CONCERNING VARIOUS ADOPTION PROVISIONS.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE & MILITARY AFFAIRS-HOUSE.

### **HB1543 - Rice**

TO AMEND THE CHILD WELFARE AGENCY LICENSING ACT TO CLARIFY WHOM THE ACT APPLIES TO TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE & MILITARY AFFAIRS-HOUSE.

### **HB1544 - Stewart**

TO REMOVE THE LIMITATION ON A STAY IN PROCEEDINGS FOR CHILD CUSTODY CASES WHEN A SERVICE MEMBER IS DEPLOYED.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE & MILITARY AFFAIRS-HOUSE.

**HB1578 - Summers**

CONCERNING PARENTAL NOTIFICATION BY A SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT INVOLVEMENT.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**HB1610 - D. Hutchinson**

AN ACT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES - CHILDRENS ADVOCACY CENTER GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Friday February 25th, 2011: Filed.

**SB188 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB318 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO CREATE CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR DISCLOSURE OF RECORDS OF A CHILDRENS ADVOCACY CENTER.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**SB319 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO LIMIT FORENSIC EXAMINATIONS OF ALLEGEDLY ABUSED CHILDREN TO CHILD SAFETY CENTERS.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB322 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE EACH COUNTY COURTHOUSE TO PROVIDE FOR CLOSED-CIRCUIT TELEVISION BROADCAST OF CHILD TESTIMONY IN CHILD MALTREATMENT CASES.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**SB323 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO UPDATE SCHOOL POLICIES WHEN A LAW REGARDING CHILD ABUSE IS AMENDED OR IS ADDED TO THE ARKANSAS CODE.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB324 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO EXPEDITE DNA ANALYSIS IN CASES OF ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE AND CHILD MALTREATMENT.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**SB325 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO PROVIDE CRIMINAL PENALTIES FOR UNLAWFUL DISCLOSURE OF INTERVIEW INFORMATION FROM A CHILD SAFETY CENTER OR CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**SB326 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE TO ACCEPT REPORTS OF INJURY TO A CHILDS INTELLECTUAL EMOTIONAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT FROM A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR LICENSED AS A TEACHER.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB328 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO ENSURE THAT EACH WOMAN WHO GIVES BIRTH IN A MEDICAL FACILITY VIEWS A VIDEO DESCRIBING SHAKEN BABY SYNDROME BEFORE THE WOMAN IS DISCHARGED.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB409 - Flowers**

TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO ESTABLISH SATELLITE OFFICES FOR THE OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL IN COUNTIES WITH A CERTAIN POPULATION LEVEL.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB527 - Dismang**

TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE IN-SERVICE TRAINING TO LICENSED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ON THE SIGNS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO CHILD VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB562 - P. Malone**

AN ACT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES - ARKANSAS CHILD ABUSERAPEDOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**Early Childhood Education**

**HB1442 - Mauch**

TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINIMUM AGE FOR ENROLLMENT IN PUBLIC SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

This bill states that a public school district shall allow a child to enter kindergarten if the child was enrolled in a state approved pre-k program in the prior year and attended that program for at least 100 days or if the child turns 5 years of age no later than August 26 during the year in which he or she enrolls in kindergarten.

**SB186 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB337 - Chesterfield**

TO AMEND THE PROCESS FOR EVALUATING ARKANSAS PRESCHOOL AND PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB581 - Crumbly**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF CHILD CARE AND EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

## **Economic Self Sufficiency**

### **HB1054 - Altes**

TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES TO CONDUCT REEMPLOYMENT INTERVIEWS TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

This bill would require the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) to conduct biweekly interviews with individuals receiving unemployment benefits in order to discuss/review the individuals efforts in finding work for the previous two weeks and to plan their work search for the upcoming two weeks. HB1054 also allows that DWS can consider both attendance and participation in these biweekly meetings when determining an individual's unemployment benefits eligibility.

### **HB1057 - Altes**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FUND.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

This bill would require that employees contribute .5% of their wages to the unemployment compensation fund. Employers must deduct the .5% from an employee's wages and hold them in a trust until these wages can be deposited into the Unemployment Compensation Fund. Also, the funds that are deducted from an employee's wages are not subject to garnishment and cannot be considered the asset of an employee in the event of a lien, judgment or bankruptcy proceedings.

### **HB1058 - Altes**

AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES LAW CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

Wednesday February 2nd, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

This bill would decrease the weekly benefit amount for individuals receiving unemployment benefits from 66 2/3% of the state average weekly wage to 55% of the state average weekly wage.

### **HB1122 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

This is an appropriations bill for the Department of Workforce Services (DWS). This bill provides appropriates for various programs related to unemployment benefits and the general operations of DWS.

**HB1266 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF COUNTY OPERATIONS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on Joint Budget Committee.

This is an appropriations bill for the Department of Human Services - Division of County Operations and provides appropriations for programs such as TANF.

**HB1593 - Allen**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE TRANSITIONAL EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**SB157 - Pritchard**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT APPLICANTS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TEST NEGATIVE FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USE.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

This bill would require applicants for and recipients of unemployment benefits to pass a drug test before receiving their first week of benefits. Also, the drug test would have to be paid for by the applicant/recipient.

**SB209 - E. Williams**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA A GED OR ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES TOWARD A GED WHILE RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS.

Wednesday February 2nd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB305 - J. Hutchinson**

TO CREATE THE UNEMPLOYMENT TRUST FUND FINANCING ACT OF 2011.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.

**SB593 - Dismang**

AN ACT TO SPECIFY MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND TO AMEND REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FOR DISCHARGE FOR ABSENTEEISM MISCONDUCT AND FAILURE TO ACCEPT SUITABLE WORK.

Friday February 25th, 2011: Filed.

**SB87 - Key**

CONCERNING QUALIFICATIONS AND DISQUALIFICATION FROM UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION BENEFITS WHEN BEING DISCHARGED FOR MISCONDUCT.

Thursday January 20th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

This bill outlines forth qualifications and disqualification from unemployment compensation benefits when an individual is discharged from employment due to misconduct. Specifically, it states that the Director of the Workforce Services must provide to an employing unit that may be liable for compensation benefits both notice of a hearing and opportunity to present information at that hearing.

**Education**

**HB1047 - Carnine**

TO INCREASE PUBLIC ACCESS TO SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORTS.

Monday February 28th, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

HB1047 amends the code to increase public access to school district reports by requiring a school district/charter school to include on its website, among other things, information concerning the school's performance in a host of areas including achievement, finances and budget, and use of federal funds.

**HB1097 - Carnine**

TO REQUIRE ALL SUPERINTENDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN A SUPERINTENDENT MENTORING PROGRAM.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

**HB1099 - Lenderman**

TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS FLEXIBILITY IN SCHOOL START DATES.

Friday February 18th, 2011: Notification that HB1099 is now Act 65.

**HB1277 - Hall**

TO REMOVE THE TIME LIMITATION FOR A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO REMAIN IN ACADEMIC DISTRESS OR FISCAL DISTRESS.

Monday February 28th, 2011: WITHDRAWN BY AUTHOR.

**HB1326 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - AND ITS VARIOUS DIVISIONS REAPPROPRIATION.

Friday February 18th, 2011: Notification that HB1326 is now Act 73.

**HB1346 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CAREER EDUCATION REAPPROPRIATION.

Friday February 18th, 2011: Notification that HB1346 is now Act 86.

**HB1411 - J. Roebuck**

TO CLARIFY FUNDING FOR ISOLATED SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**HB1442 - Mauch**

TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINIMUM AGE FOR ENROLLMENT IN PUBLIC SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

This bill states that a public school district shall allow a child to enter kindergarten if the child was enrolled in a state approved pre-k program in the prior year and attended that program for at least 100 days or if the child turns 5 years of age no later than August 26 during the year in which he or she enrolls in kindergarten.

**HB1454 - J. Roebuck**

TO CLARIFY WHAT INFORMATION SPECIFIC HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED REPORTS SHOULD CONTAIN TO REQUIRE SOME HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED REPORTS TO BE UPDATED ANNUALLY.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Returned by the Committee Do Pass.

**HB1458 - Hobbs**

THE EXTENSION EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS ACT.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**HB1516 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

**HB1574 - Steele**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES - COMMUNITY BASED YOUTH PROGRAM PROVIDER GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

**HJR1005 - Clemmer**

TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE THAT THIRTY-FIVE PERCENT 35 OF THE TOTAL LOTTERY PROCEEDS SHALL BE USED TO FUND SCHOLARSHIPS.

Tuesday February 8th, 2011: Filed.

**SB104 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB138 - Key**

TO ESTABLISH THE POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM ACT.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

This bill establishes the framework for granting afterschool and summer program grants once funding becomes available. This is a priority agenda item for Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families.

**SB210 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Wednesday February 2nd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB211 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - GRANTS AND AID TO LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Wednesday February 2nd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB267 - D. Johnson**

TO EXPAND LEARNING TIME FOR ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS BY ALLOWING SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO OPERATE A TWO-HUNDRED-DAY SCHOOL YEAR.

Tuesday February 8th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB330 - J. Jeffress**

TO AMEND THE CONTINUING ADEQUACY EVALUATION ACT OF 2004.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB337 - Chesterfield**

TO AMEND THE PROCESS FOR EVALUATING ARKANSAS PRESCHOOL AND PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB344 - Holland**

TO ESTABLISH A SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT MENTORING PROGRAM.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB346 - G. Baker**

TO REMOVE THE LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF OPEN-ENROLLMENT CHARTER SCHOOLS AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB352 - Chesterfield**

TO INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT ABOUT THE NUMBER OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS PROVIDING REMEDIATION AND COLLEGE PREPARATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO TAKE THE ACT BEFORE THEIR SENIOR YEAR.

Thursday February 17th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB353 - Lamoureux**

TO CLARIFY FUNDING FOR ISOLATED SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Thursday February 17th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB452 - Flowers**

AN ACT FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - AFTER SCHOOL AND YOUTH PROGRAMS GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB578 - G. Baker**

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS GOVERNORS SCHOLARS PROGRAM.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SB81 - J. Jeffress**

TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS.

Wednesday January 19th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Education.

**SJR8 - J. Jeffress**

TO PROMOTE ACCOUNTABILITY AFFORDABILITY AND EFFICIENCY IN HIGHER EDUCATION BY ESTABLISHING THE ARKANSAS SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION.

Wednesday February 9th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

## Health

**HB1049 - Allen**

TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF HIGHWAYS AND ROADS BY PROHIBITING WIRELESS TELEPHONE USE IN SCHOOL ZONES.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: The vote by which HB1049 Having Failed to Pass. was expunged..

**HB1053 - D. Meeks**

AN ACT TO ENSURE FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN HEALTH CARE FOR ALL ARKANSANS AND TO PREVENT INVOLUNTARY ENROLLMENTS IN HEALTH CARE INSURANCE PROGRAMS.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**HB1172 - Hall**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES TO ENTER INTO COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS.

Monday January 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**HB1205 - Mauch**

THE ARKANSAS WATER ADDITIVE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

Monday January 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

This bill will require a "declaration of safety" for additives for water systems and could affect the addition of fluoride to public water systems.

**HB1211 - Mayberry**

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF A QUALIFYING DIAGNOSIS THAT ESTABLISHES CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SERVICES.

Friday February 18th, 2011: Notification that HB1211 is now Act 68.

This bill clarifies that "spina bifida and Down syndrome" are among the diagnoses that allow eligibility for developmental disability services.

**HB1217 - Tyler**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES TO BILL MEDICAID DIRECTLY FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

Monday January 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**HB1229 - Hall**

TO CLARIFY THE LAW RELATED TO SPEED LIMITS NEAR SCHOOLS.

Tuesday January 25th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Education.

This bill clarifies the meaning of "when children are present" to speed limit laws in school zones.

**HB1247 - B. Wilkins**

AN ACT TO ENSURE THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF EXEMPTIONS FROM THE REQUIREMENTS TO TEST NEWBORN INFANTS AND FROM THE REQUIREMENTS TO IMMUNIZE NURSING HOME RESIDENTS.

Thursday January 27th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**HB1263 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on Joint Budget Committee.

**HB1264 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - TOBACCO PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAMS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on Joint Budget Committee.

**HB1265 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - MEDICAID EXPANSION PROGRAM APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on Joint Budget Committee.

**HB1268 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - ADMINISTRATION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on Joint Budget Committee.

**HB1294 - H. Wilkins**

TO AMEND THE CHILD PASSENGER PROTECTION ACT AND THE MANDATORY SEAT BELT LAW TO REQUIRE SEAT BELT USE ON ALL SCHOOL BUSES IF THE BUS WAS PURCHASED ON OR AFTER JULY 1 2013.

Wednesday February 2nd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Public Transportation.

**HB1301 - Hyde**

TO AUTHORIZE THE CODIFICATION OF ACT 755 OF 2003 THE ARKANSAS COMMISSION ON EYE AND VISION CARE OF SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Returned by the Committee, with the recommendation that it Do Pass.

**HB1315 - Lindsey**

TO PROVIDE HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.

**HB1317 - Tyler**

AN ACT TO EXPAND THE IMMUNIZATION REGISTRY TO BETTER PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

**HB1332 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REAPPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Notification that HB1332 is now Act 144.

**HB1365 - H. Wilkins**

TO REQUIRE BACKSEAT PASSENGERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO COMPLY WITH THE CURRENT MANDATORY SEATBELT LAW AND CLARIFY APPLICABLE PENALTIES.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: CLINCHER MOTION ADOPTED.

**HB1425 - Hickerson**

TO REMOVE INSURANCE RESTRICTIONS ON NONCOVERED DENTAL SERVICES AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Thursday February 17th, 2011: Transfer to the Committee on INSURANCE & COMMERCE- HOUSE.

**HB1426 - Baird**

TO AUTHORIZE A MEDICAL EXEMPTION DESIGNATION FOR SEAT BELT USE TO BE PLACED ON A DRIVERS LICENSE OR IDENTIFICATION CARD.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION- HOUSE.

**HB1428 - D. Hutchinson**

TO REQUIRE CHILD-ONLY INDIVIDUAL HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Monday February 28th, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

**HB1447 - D. Hutchinson**

TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO SUFFER FROM DIABETES BY PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO BE TRAINED IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF GLUCAGON.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on EDUCATION COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**HB1503 - McCrary**

TO MAKE IT A VIOLATION FOR A MINOR TO POSSESS A TOBACCO PRODUCT OR CIGARETTE PAPERS.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on HOUSE RULES.

**HB1524 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

**HB1600 - Hyde**

TO PROVIDE HEALTH INSURANCE FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER NINETEEN YEARS OF AGE.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**HB1604 - Murdock**

AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO TREATMENT FOR SICKLE-CELL ANEMIA IN ARKANSAS.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Filed.

**SB130 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE AUTHORITY OF PHARMACISTS TO PROVIDE VACCINES AND IMMUNIZATIONS AND TO ADMINISTER CERTAIN MEDICATIONS.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: DELIVERED TO GOVERNOR..

This bill would allow pharmacists to administer flu vaccines and immunizations to persons of any age (adding children), and medications that are the subject of a patient-specific order or prescription.

**SB136 - Madison**

REGARDING RESTRICTED DRIVERS LICENSES AS THE RESULT OF A DWI.

Tuesday January 25th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

This would allow individuals who have restricted driving permits to drive their children to school and school-sponsored events.

**SB154 - J. Taylor**

TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF HIGHWAYS AND ROADS BY PROHIBITING WIRELESS TELEPHONE USE IN SCHOOL ZONES AND HIGHWAY WORK ZONES.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Notification that SB154 is now Act 37.

**SB184 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB187 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB189 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB232 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES REAPPROPRIATION.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Notification that SB232 is now Act 55.

**SB340 - Lavery**

TO ESTABLISH A MEDICAID PROVIDER FEE FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DAY TREATMENT CLINIC SERVICES.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB341 - Lavery**

TO ESTABLISH A MEDICAID PROVIDER FEE FOR SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THE ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY SERVICES WAIVER ADMINISTERED BY DDS.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB342 - Lavery**

TO ESTABLISH A MEDICAID PROVIDER FEE FOR CHILDRENS HEALTH MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB359 - D. Johnson**

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN WATER SYSTEMS TO MAINTAIN A LEVEL OF FLUORIDE TO PREVENT TOOTH DECAY.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND LABOR COMMITTEE- HOUSE.

**SB42 – D. Johnson**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE DENTAL HYGIENISTS TO PERFORM DENTAL HYGIENE PROCEDURES FOR PERSONS IN PUBLIC SETTINGS WITHOUT THE SUPERVISION OF A DENTIST.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

This bill would allow dental hygienists to perform preventive dentistry including sealants, fluoride treatments, and assessment of need for further treatment without the supervision of a dentist. Hygienists would be able to practice in a public health setting that includes schools, health departments, community health clinics, and charitable clinics.

**SB43 - D.Johnson**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE PHYSICIANS AND NURSES TO APPLY FLUORIDE VARNISH TO A CHILDS TEETH AFTER APPROPRIATE TRAINING.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Notification that SB43 is now Act 90.

**SB459 - Crumbly**

TO FOCUS STATE AGENCY ATTENTION ON MORTALITY DISPARITIES TO DEFINE RED COUNTIES AND TO CREATE PROGRAMS TO REMEDY MORTALITY DISPARITIES IN THIS STATE.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**SB483 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - ARKANSAS HEALTH CENTER PROJECTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB504 - Teague**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - HEALTH CLINIC AND BATTERED WOMEN SHELTER GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB505 - Teague**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - HEALTH CLINIC AND SHELTER GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB522 - Irvin**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - TREATMENT PROGRAM GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB572 - Holland**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES - COMMUNITY PROGRAM GRANTS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB65 - J. Jeffress**

AN ACT TO IMPROVE ENROLLMENT OF ARKANSAS CHILDREN IN THE ARKIDS FIRST A AND B MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

Thursday January 27th, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.

This bill requires the Department of Human Services to increase enrollment of uninsured children who are eligible for ARKKids or Medicaid, to improve retention of coverage, and minimize administrative barriers to the application and renewal processes for ARKKids First A, ARKKids First B and Medicaid. This is a priority agenda item for Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families and the Finish Line Coalition.

**SB66 - J. Jeffress**

AN ACT TO REQUIRE HEALTH BENEFIT PLANS TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE TREATMENT OF MORBID OBESITY.

Tuesday January 18th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Insurance and Commerce.

This bill would require that health benefit plans provide coverage for the treatment of morbid obesity including bariatric surgery, gastric bypass surgery, and lap-band surgery.

**SB69 - J. Jeffress**

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF HERBAL SNUFF TO PERSONS UNDER EIGHTEEN 18 YEARS OF AGE.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on HOUSE RULES.

**SB98 - Wyatt**

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES TO ENTER INTO COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS.

Monday January 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor.

**Immigration**

**HB1008 - Harris**

TO REQUIRE UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP OR LAWFUL PRESENCE IN THE UNITED STATES FOR A PERSON TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR IN-STATE TUITION.

Thursday January 20th, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

This legislation would do the opposite of what a DREAM Act would accomplish. It would prohibit undocumented immigrants from paying their own way to state colleges and universities at in-state tuition prices.

**HB1013 - Nickels**

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE CONTRACTORS LICENSING BOARD TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST A CONTRACTOR FOR KNOWINGLY EMPLOYING A WORKER WITHOUT LEGAL AUTHORIZATION TO WORK IN THE UNITED STATES.

Monday February 7th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

**HB1292 - Hubbard**

TO PROHIBIT ILLEGAL ALIENS FROM RECEIVING ANY STATE BENEFIT EXCEPT IN INSTANCES OF EMERGENCY OR WHEN LIFE-SAVING MEASURES ARE REQUIRED.

Tuesday February 1st, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

This bill seeks to prohibit undocumented immigrants from receiving state services by requiring recipients to verify their citizenship or lawful presence through an affidavit submitted to state agencies. It seems likely that the legislation would prohibit the continuation of the state's prenatal program for undocumented women.

**Juvenile Justice**

**HB1456 - Powers**

REGARDING A DELINQUENCY PROCEEDING.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Returned by the Committee Do Pass.

**SB190 - Joint Budget Committee**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2011-2012 FISCAL YEAR.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB218 - J. Jeffress**

TO DEFINE THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND THE DYS CONTRACT COMMUNITY-BASED YOUTH SERVICES PROVIDERS.

Monday February 21st, 2011: Withdrawn by author..

**SB339 - Crumbly**

TO ESTABLISH THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR ADJUDICATED YOUTH.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

**SB509 - Luker**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES - COMMUNITY BASED AND JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAMS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB588 - Crumbly**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES - REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM FOR ADJUDICATED YOUTH GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**Other**

**HB1017 - Garner**

THE ARKANSAS OPEN CHECKBOOK ACT.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

This bill would require the Department of Finance and Administration to create a "searchable" website that provides information on all revenue and expenditures items including but not limited to: bond debt,

salaries and wages for individual employees at state agencies, and grants. This website would need to be operational no later than January 1, 2012.

**HB1022 - Cheatham**

CONCERNING LOBBYIST REGISTRATION BY A FORMER MEMBER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday January 26th, 2011: WITHDRAWN BY AUTHOR.

This bill would require a former member of the General Assembly to wait 2 years after the end of his or her term of office before becoming eligible to register as a lobbyist.

**HB1572 - Woods**

TO AMEND AMENDMENT 89 OF THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION CONCERNING THE INTEREST RATE LIMIT ON LOAN CONTRACTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 11 OF AMENDMENT 89 TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on INSURANCE & COMMERCE- HOUSE.

**HJR1004 - Nickels**

A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO REPEAL ANNUAL SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND PROVIDE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL MEET IN REGULAR SESSION ONE TIME EVERY TWO YEARS.

Tuesday February 8th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

**HJR1006 - Baird**

TO AMEND SECTION 15 OF ARTICLE 6 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF ARKANSAS TO REQUIRE THAT A VOTE BY TWO-THIRDS 23 MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS REQUIRED TO OVERRIDE A VETO.

Wednesday February 9th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

**HJR1008 - Baird**

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO CREATE THE RAINY DAY TRUST FUND.

Wednesday February 9th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

**HR1002 - D. Hutchinson**

TO AMEND RULE 36M OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ESTABLISH THE METHOD FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF GENERAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Select Committee on Rules.

This bill would require that General Improvement Funds be distributed equally between the members of the House of Representatives.

**SB180 - Key**

TO REQUIRE VOTER APPROVAL OF CERTAIN TAX LEVIES AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

Monday February 7th, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would require that tax ordinances at the county and city level to be approved by voters within 120 days of being put into place.

**SB221 - Dismang**

THE ARKANSAS FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY ACT.

Tuesday February 15th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on STATE AGENCIES & GOVTL AFFAIRS- HOUSE.

This bill would require the Department of Finance and Administration to provide detailed expenditure information to the public on a website.

**SB308 - Flowers**

TO CREATE THE OFFENSE OF PROVOKING A PERSON TO VIOLATE AN ORDER OF PROTECTION AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**SJR3 - E. Williams**

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE A BALANCED STATE BUDGET EVERY YEAR.

Wednesday February 9th, 2011: Re-referred to Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

**Substance Abuse**

**HB1020 - Lea**

CONCERNING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE DRUG COURT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: CLINCHER MOTION ADOPTED.

**HB1548 - Lovell**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

**HB1549 - Steele**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE.

**SB345 - P. Malone**

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM.

Monday February 28th, 2011: Amendment # 2, 3 and 4 read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and adopted, ordered engrossed..

**SB465 - Lamoureux**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB466 - G. Jeffress**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB467 - J. Jeffress**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB471 - Burnett**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB472 - Wyatt**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB474 - Thompson**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB492 - Lavery**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB495 - Pritchard**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT PROGRAMS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB514 - Flowers**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - DRUG ABUSE AND BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAMS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB526 - Holland**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - GRANTS FOR ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB547 - Madison**

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES GENERAL IMPROVEMENT APPROPRIATION.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Joint Budget Committee.

**SB62 - Madison**

AMENDING THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

Tuesday January 18th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Judiciary.

**Tax**

The summary of tax bills does not include all tax bills that have been filed. It only includes tax bills that directly impact children and their families and those that with a Fiscal Impact Statement from the Department of Finance and Administration. Of those that have a Fiscal Impact Statement, we only included bills that would increase revenue by \$500,000 or more or that decrease revenue by \$3.5 million or more.

If all of the proposed tax bills that have been filed (with the exception of bills that duplicate each other), Arkansas would be looking at a revenue loss of nearly \$340 million dollars.

**HB1002 - Garner**

TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS CAPITAL GAINS REDUCTION ACT OF 2011.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would add an income tax exemption that would excluded all capital gains earnings on Arkansas property acquired after July 1, 2011. The estimated revenue loss for FY2013 is \$44.5 million and for FY2014 is \$68.5 million.

**HB1016 - Baird**

TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX RELIEF TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD TAXPAYERS WITH TWO 2 OR MORE DEPENDENTS.

Tuesday February 1st, 2011: WITHDRAWN BY AUTHOR.

This is a shell bill to provide additional income tax relief to head of household taxpayers with two or more dependents.

**HB1023 - English**

TO EXEMPT FROM INCOME TAX A LIMITED AMOUNT OF RETIREMENT BENEFITS RECEIVED FOR SERVICE IN THE ARMED FORCES.

Monday January 31st, 2011: Transfer to House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill creates a state income tax exemption for retirement benefits from the Armed Services. At this time, all residents receive a state income tax exemption on the first \$6,000 received in retirement benefits. Under this bill, Armed Services retirement benefits will receive a different exemption level (but will not be eligible for the \$6,000 exemption.) Estimated revenue loss - FY2012: \$3,462,000; FY2013: \$8,656,000; FY2014: \$12,342,000; FY2015: \$13,501,000; FY2016: \$14,647,000; FY2017 and after: \$15,547,000.

**HB1025 - Altes**

TO PROVIDE AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR A PARENT WHO CHOOSES TO STAY AT HOME WITH HIS OR HER YOUNG CHILD.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would introduce a \$1,000 tax credit for a parent who chooses to stay home with his or her child (ages 4 and under) if they are not employed during the taxable year, if they are not a full-time student, and if their adjusted gross income is \$32,000 or less. Estimated revenue loss for FY 2012 \$8,420,045 and FY2013 \$8,630,547.

**HB1030 - Altes**

TO ESTABLISH AN INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR EDUCATION EXPENSES OF DEPENDENTS.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would create a state income tax credit for taxpayers with one or more dependents who are full-time students in a K-12 education program at any school if they spend more than \$300 on tuition, books, and lab fees. The tax credit would be 25% of the amount paid on the listed expenses but could not exceed the amount of income tax the taxpayer owes. Estimated revenue loss for FY2012 \$57,166,000 and FY2013 \$58,300,000.

**HB1033 - Altes**

TO CREATE A BACK-TO-SCHOOL TAX-FREE HOLIDAY BY EXEMPTING ITEMS OF CLOTHING FROM SALES AND USE TAX DURING A LIMITED TIME PERIOD.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would create a tax holiday (exempting sales and use tax) on purchases of school clothes on the first Saturday in August. This tax holiday would not include clothing items over the cost of \$75, sports or recreational equipment worn in conjunction with an athletic or recreational activity, and protective equipment. Estimated revenue loss: FY2012 \$1.9 million and FY2013 \$1.95 million.

**HB1035 - Altes**

TO EXEMPT REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR FARM EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY FROM THE GROSS RECEIPTS AND USE TAX.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would create a gross receipts and use tax exemption on repair or replacement parts used to repair farm equipment and machinery. It is estimated that this bill would result in a loss of \$6.7 million in state revenue for FY2012 and \$10.3 million in FY2013. An additional \$2.2 million in FY2012 and \$3.4 million in FY2013 will be lost in local sales tax revenue.

**HB1038 - Altes**

TO REDUCE THE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATE AND INCREASE THE SALES AND USE TAX RATE.

Monday January 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would lower the state income tax rate while raising the sales and use tax rates. For net income of \$25,000 or above the tax rate would be: 7% for tax years before 2012; 5.5% for 2012; 4.5% for 2013; and 4% for 2014 and on. The sales and use tax would increase by the following: 1% for 2012; 2% for 2013; and 3% for 2014 and on.

**HB1052 - Jean**

TO DECREASE THE SALES AND USE TAX ON NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRICITY USED BY MANUFACTURERS AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would decrease the sales and use tax rate on natural gas and electricity used by manufacturers from 3.125% to 2.625% on July 1, 2011. It is estimated that \$3.8 million in FY2012 and \$4.2 million in FY2013 will be lost in state revenue with this bill.

**HB1056 - Lindsey**

TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX RELIEF TO HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD TAXPAYERS WITH TWO 2 OR MORE DEPENDENTS.

Wednesday February 16th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill will exempt all families with children and incomes below the poverty line from paying state income taxes. This bill is estimated to decrease state revenue by \$3.7 million in FY2012 and \$3.8 million in FY2013.

**HB1062 - Lovell**

TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW TO IMPOSE SURCHARGES UPON COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE PROVIDERS TO SUPPORT THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FUND AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Thursday February 24th, 2011: TO BE ENROLLED.

This bill would allow the Public Service Commission to place a \$0.03 surcharge per month on all commercial mobile radio service providers to assist in funding the equipment distribution program. The surcharge will be collected through special revenue. This bill is estimated to raise \$840,000 for the Telecommunications Equipment Fund.

**HB1118 - Pennartz**

TO ESTABLISH AN INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT FOR THE REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS AND TO ESTABLISH AN EMERGENCY.

Tuesday February 1st, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

This bill would create an investment tax credit for rehabilitation and development of structures within central business improvement districts for projects that will cost more than \$50,000. The tax credit will be equal to 20% of the first \$1,000,000 of a qualified project. It is estimated that this would result in the following revenue loss: \$400,000 for FY2012; \$7,400,000 for FY2013; \$9,250,000 for FY2014; \$11,562,000 for FY2015; and \$13,875,000 for FY2016 through FY2018.

**HB1233 - Westerman**

TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND DOMESTIC JOB GROWTH AND TO CREATE AN EXEMPTION FROM SALES AND USE TAX FOR CERTAIN CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS USED FOR PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

Wednesday January 26th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

Estimated revenue loss: FY2012 \$21.08 million and FY2013 \$28.60 million.

**HB1369 - Shepherd**

TO CREATE A SALES TAX HOLIDAY FOR CLOTHING CLOTHING ACCESSORIES OR EQUIPMENT SCHOOL SUPPLIES SCHOOL ART SUPPLIES AND SCHOOL INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

Wednesday February 23rd, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

Estimated revenue loss: \$2.12 million in FY2012 and \$2.18 million in FY2013.

**HB1389 - Mayberry**

TO REDUCE THE STATE SALES AND USE TAX RATE ON FOOD AND FOOD INGREDIENTS.

Thursday February 10th, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on House Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This law would require the tax on food and food ingredients to 7/8 percent.

**HB1397 - Ingram**

TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE STATE BY EXEMPTING FROM THE STATE SALES AND USE TAX FUEL AND ENERGY USED OR CONSUMED IN MANUFACTURING AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Thursday February 17th, 2011: REPORTED CORRECTLY ENGROSSED.

Estimated revenue loss: \$129.44 million in FY2012 and \$149.32 million in FY2013.

**HB1495 - Nickels**

TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS ACT AND TO REQUIRE COMBINED REPORTING FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on REVENUE & TAXATION- HOUSE.

This bill outlines requirements for certain businesses and corporations to file combined report for the purposes of income taxes.

**SB162 - Key**

TO INCREASE THE INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FOR RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY BENEFITS AND TO PROVIDE FOR A COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT TO THE INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FOR RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY BENEFITS.

Thursday January 27th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would increase the income tax exemption for retirement and disability benefits to include the first \$7,500. This bill would result in a revenue loss of \$9,884,000 beginning in FY2012.

**SB163 - Key**

TO INCREASE THE INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FOR RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY BENEFITS AND TO PROVIDE FOR A COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT TO THE INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FOR RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY BENEFITS.

Thursday January 27th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would increase the income tax exemption on retirement and disability benefits to include the first \$10,000 received. It is estimated that Arkansas would lose \$24,406,000 beginning in FY2012 if this bill were to pass.

**SB269 - Files**

TO PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE STATE BY EXEMPTING FROM THE STATE SALES AND USE TAX FUEL AND ENERGY USED OR CONSUMED IN MANUFACTURING AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Tuesday February 8th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

Estimated annual revenue loss: \$132.11 million in FY2012 and \$152.4 million in FY2013.

**SB275 - Sample**

TO DECREASE THE SALES AND USE TAX ON NATURAL GAS AND ELECTRICITY USED BY MANUFACTURERS AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on REVENUE & TAXATION- HOUSE.

Estimated revenue loss: \$7.04 million FY2012 and \$12.76 million in FY2013.

**SB276 - Teague**

TO AMEND THE STATE SALES AND USE TAX RATE ON FOOD AND FOOD INGREDIENTS AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Tuesday February 22nd, 2011: Read the first time, rules suspended, read the second time and referred to the Committee on REVENUE & TAXATION- HOUSE.

This bill would decrease the sales tax collected on food and food ingredients to 1.375 percent. Estimated revenue loss of \$20,8 million in FY2012 and \$23.4 million in FY2013.

**SJR4 - Rapert**

THE TAXPAYERS PROTECTION AMENDMENT.

Tuesday February 8th, 2011: Read first time, rules suspended, read second time, referred to Senate Committee on State Agencies and Governmental Affairs.

This bill would pass a constitutional amendment requiring the following percent of affirmative votes to pass laws related to taxation: a three-fourths (3/4) vote to enact a tax or tax rate increase; a majority for a decrease in tax rate, to provide a tax exemption, or to remove a tax exemption, credit, exclusion, or deduction.