

# Track the voting record of your Legislators and the Governor on *Issues Critical to Children* in 2005

Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, in partnership with its supporters and allies, has identified key legislative issues impacting children and families that will likely be considered by members of the Arkansas General Assembly during the 2005 legislative session. Among the more

important issues they will face: preschool education, health care, funding for programs critical to the well-being of children, economic self-sufficiency and fair taxes. We urge voters and constituents to consider these issues and monitor the progress of the General Assembly while it is in session.



This guide is designed to help citizens track the voting records of their legislators on important issues relating to children.

During 2004, the Arkansas legislature held a special session to comply with an Arkansas Supreme Court mandate to reform K-12 education. In response, the Arkansas General Assembly increased funding for pre-school and K-12 education by \$400 million dollars.

One issue not addressed during the special session was the funding of school facilities. Arkansas will have to dramatically increase spending on facilities to comply with the court's mandate. This raises two very important questions. How much will they spend on facilities, and what will they do on other issues vital to children?



# The Voting Record of

Governor \_\_\_\_\_

Senator \_\_\_\_\_

Representative \_\_\_\_\_

## Quality Pre-School Education Matters!

### **HB1078**

**Expand access to quality preschool for at-risk 3- and 4-year olds by appropriating an *additional* \$20 million for expansion of the Arkansas Better Chance for School Success program in SFY 05 and \$40 million in SFY 07.**

FOR

AGAINST

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)

**Make permanent the current excise tax on beer used to support quality preschool programs.**

FOR

AGAINST

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)

**Pass special TANF appropriation language to expand access to high quality preschool for potential and current TEA recipients.**

FOR

AGAINST

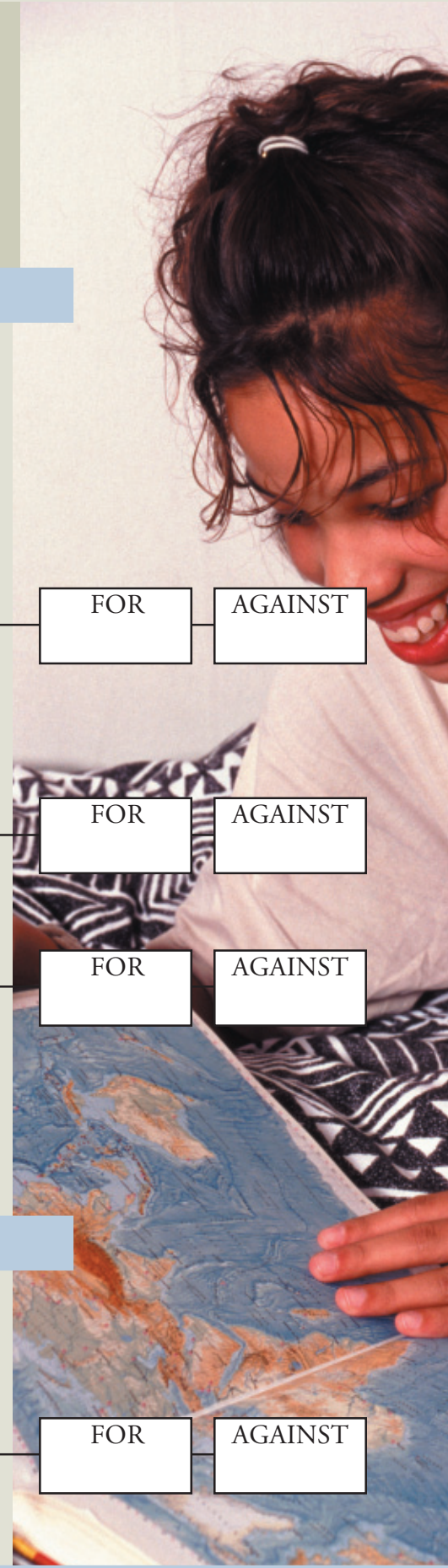
## Quality After-School Activities Matter!

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)

**Support legislation to expand access to quality after school programs.**

FOR

AGAINST





## Health Care Matters!

FOR

AGAINST

**Support a budget that fully funds critical health services for children such as Medicaid or ARKids First.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)

FOR

AGAINST

**Support legislation that expands access to school nurses and supports the implementation of coordinated school health.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)

FOR

AGAINST

**Vote to retain the confidential measurement and reporting of the Body Mass Index for all public school children.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)



## Revenue for Programs Matters!

FOR

AGAINST

**Ensure necessary funding for critical programs for children, e.g., child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, and K-12 education.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)



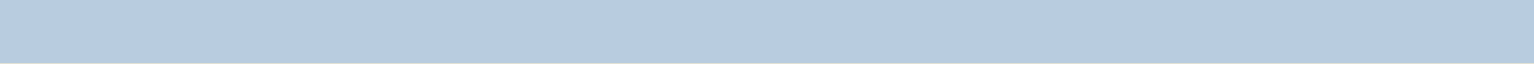
## Economic Self-Sufficiency Matters!

FOR

AGAINST

**Support legislation that will eliminate usurious loan practices that hurt the economic well-being of Arkansas families.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(bill number)





# Tax Fairness Matters!

(bill number)

**Support legislation that raises new tax revenue through more fair taxes such as personal and corporate income taxes, the estate tax, or property taxes.**

FOR

AGAINST

(bill number)

**Support tax relief for low-income families.**

FOR

AGAINST

(bill number)

**Support a resolution allowing the people to vote on changing legislative vote requirements to make it easier to pass more fair tax changes (personal and corporate income taxes) and make it harder to pass sales taxes.**

FOR

AGAINST

(bill number)

**Support a resolution allowing the people to vote on a comprehensive and progressive overhaul of the Arkansas tax system to promote tax fairness and adequate revenue for children's programs.**

FOR

AGAINST



## Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families

523 S. Louisiana  
Little Rock, AR 72205  
501-371-9678  
[www.aradvocates.org](http://www.aradvocates.org)

**\*As this guide went to press, some legislation on issues important to children had not been filed. To get an update of this guide with bill numbers, etc. please go to: [www.aradvocates.org](http://www.aradvocates.org).**

**[Click on weekly legislative updates.](#)**

