

By: Senators K. Ingram, J. Cooper, Burnett, Caldwell, B. Johnson  
By: Representatives M.J. Gray, Sullivan, D. Ferguson, M. Hodges, Jett, Murdock, Nicks, Ladyman,  
Broadaway, Wright

## SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON CITY, COUNTY, AND  
LOCAL AFFAIRS TO STUDY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
DISTRICTS AND TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF  
CONSOLIDATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS.

### Subtitle

ENCOURAGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON CITY,  
COUNTY, AND LOCAL AFFAIRS TO STUDY  
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS AND TO  
DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF  
CONSOLIDATION OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
DISTRICTS.

WHEREAS, under Arkansas law the General Assembly created multicounty planning and development organizations, known as "planning and development districts", to:

- (1) Promote economic development;
- (2) Assist local governments and private organizations in obtaining federal grants and loans;
- (3) Prepare comprehensive regional plans for economic development and improved government services;
- (4) Enlist private support for these activities; and
- (5) Coordinate private and public programs in the planning and development districts; and



WHEREAS, in order to encourage the planning and development districts in their efforts to provide these beneficial services, the General Assembly established a program of providing financial assistance to the planning and development districts to enable them to continue and expand their activities in furtherance of these services; and

WHEREAS, there are currently eight (8) planning and development districts operating in Arkansas,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs is encouraged to conduct a study of the best practices of planning and development districts that may be implemented to improve the efficiency of the planning and development districts; review the economic development tools of the planning and development districts to determine if the planning and development districts are acting in furtherance of the purposes stated in the law; determine the feasibility of consolidation of planning and development districts to promote economic development; conduct the study with the assistance of the planning and development districts; and report to the Senate Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs and the House Committee on City, County, and Local Affairs with findings and recommendations from the study by December 1, 2016.