

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1934

By: Representatives McAlindon, B. McKenzie

By: Senator Gilmore

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS FORWARD ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE ACT; TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS FORWARD ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS FORWARD ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE ACT; AND TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS FORWARD ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas Forward Engagement Committee Act".

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) A comprehensive review of state spending and regulation is necessary to:

(A) Identify and eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse;

(B) Improve operational efficiencies; and

(C) Optimize the use of public resources; and

(2) Outdated, duplicative, and unnecessary regulations can impose undue burdens on businesses and individuals, hindering economic development.



(b) The General Assembly intends for this act to:

- (1) Promote governmental efficiency;
- (2) Foster a regulatory environment that supports economic growth and a more business-friendly climate within the State of Arkansas; and
- (3) Establish a working group tasked with identifying inefficiencies in government spending and reviewing regulatory policies that unnecessarily restrict economic growth.

SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. Arkansas Forward Engagement Committee working group.

(a) There is established the Arkansas Forward Engagement Committee working group.

(b)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(5)(B) of this section, the working group shall be composed of the following members:

(A) The Secretary of the Department of Shared Administrative Services, who shall serve as the chair of the working group;

(B) The Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration;

(C) The Secretary of the Department of Commerce;

(D) The Secretary of the Department of Human Services;

(E) The Secretary of the Department of Inspector General;

(F) The State Personnel Administrator;

(G) Two (2) members appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Shared Administrative Services;

(H)(i) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(ii) The members appointed under subdivision (b)(1)(H)(i) of this section serve at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(I)(i) Two (2) members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(ii) The members appointed under subdivision (b)(1)(I)(i) of this section serve at the pleasure of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(2)(A) The members listed in subdivisions (b)(1)(A)–(G) of this section serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(B) The Governor may recommend the removal or replacement of any member of the working group.

(3) The Governor shall call the first meeting of the working group no later than September 1, 2025.

(4)(A) The working group shall meet quarterly.

(B) The working group may meet more often as necessary to accomplish its goals under this section at the call of the chair.

(5)(A) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(5)(B) of this section, if a vacancy occurs on the working group, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(B) A vacancy in a position listed in subdivisions (b)(1)(A)–(F) of this section shall be filled by appointment by the Governor.

(6) A majority of the voting members of the working group shall constitute a quorum for transacting any business of the working group.

(7) A member of the General Assembly appointed as a member of the working group under this section shall serve as a nonvoting advisory member of the working group.

(8) A member of the working group shall serve without compensation, reimbursement of expenses, or per diem for his or her duties on the working group.

(9) The Department of Shared Administrative Services shall provide staff for the working group.

(c)(1) The working group shall conduct a comprehensive review of state government spending and regulation to identify inefficiencies, opportunities for resource optimization, and unnecessary or burdensome regulations.

(2)(A)(i) The working group shall accept public submissions regarding waste, fraud, and inefficiencies in government spending or regulatory processes.

(ii) The Department of Shared Administrative Services shall create a mechanism for the acceptance of public submissions under subdivision (c)(2)(A)(i) of this section.

(B) The working group shall consider and include public submissions received by the working group under this subsection in the final report of the working group.

(d) The working group shall submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the

President Pro Tempore of the Senate no later than July 1, 2026.

(e)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (e)(2) of this section, the working group is abolished on January 1, 2027.

(2) The Governor may extend the operations of the working group so that the working group is abolished on January 1, 2029.