

## MINUTES

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

12:30 PM

Room 171, State Capitol

Little Rock, Arkansas

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Committee members present: Senators Bryan King, Chair; Alan Clark, Vice-Chair; Matt McKee, Clint Penzo, and Dan Sullivan

Other members present: Senator John Payton

Senator King called the meeting to order.

#### **Discussion of Means of Fraud Through Cryptocurrency [Exhibit B]**

Adam Zarazinski, Co-Founder, Inca Digital, and Anita Nikolich, Director of Research and Technology Innovation, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, provided a presentation on the trends of bitcoin mining facilities and the potential risk these data centers pose to the energy grid. The speakers highlighted the growing concern that bitcoin mining activities can cause a potential national security threat, particularly due to the expanding control and ownership of mining operations and power contracts by foreign companies.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.