

## MINUTES

### ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

11:00 AM

Room 171, State Capitol

Little Rock, Arkansas

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Committee members present: Senators Jamie Scott, Vice Chair; and Fredrick J. Love; Representatives Jay Richardson, Chair; Glenn Barnes, Lincoln Barnett, Denise Jones Ennett, Kenneth B. Ferguson, Jessie McGruder, Tara Shephard, Joy Springer, and Tracy Steele

Representative Richardson called the meeting to order.

#### **Consideration to Approve Meeting Minutes [Exhibits B1-B2]**

Senator Love made a motion to approve the November 07, 2024, minutes, seconded by Senator Scott, and the motion carried.

Senator Love made a motion to approve the December 13, 2024, minutes, seconded by Representative Kenneth Ferguson, and the motion carried.

#### **Presentation of the Black Superintendents of Arkansas**

Dr. Katina Ray, Former Superintendent; Dr. Charity Smith, Principal Associate for Education, Fetterman and Associates; Dr. Veronica Perkins, Incoming Superintendent, Strong-Huttig School District; and Dr. Amy Cooper, Assistant Superintendent, Little Rock School District; presented the challenges that children are facing in districts today. Their presentation addressed literacy rates, retention rates, and possible options that would give students in the future a positive advantage, such as giving children second opportunities at assessment.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.