

HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY BY THE APPROPRIATE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE OF THE DESIRABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING IN ARKANSAS A GUARANTEED STATE COLLEGE TUITION PROGRAM, PATTERNED AFTER OTHER STATES WHERE SUCH PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN UTILIZED, AND TO REPORT THE FINDINGS OF SAID STUDY TO THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, college attendance has proven to be beneficial both to the individual and to society at large from social, economic and political perspectives; and

WHEREAS, recent cuts in federal aid to education along with eroding state support have begun to lead to a decline in college enrollments and could result in increased declines in the near future; and

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan has recently initiated a unique program to guarantee state college tuition to future students by permitting their parents and grandparents to make an initial lump sum pre-payment for their newborn children's educations; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's innovative approach to the problem of providing tuition for qualified college bound students is worthy of further study and serious consideration,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

That an appropriate joint interim committee shall conduct a study of the existing guaranteed state college tuition programs to determine the desirability and feasibility of establishing a similar program in Arkansas.

The committee shall complete the study and report its findings and recommendations no later than December 1, 1988, in time for possible consideration by the Seventy-Seventh General Assembly in January, 1989.