STATE OF ARKANSAS
House of Representatives

NEWSLETTER FROM REP. Keith Brooks
DISTRICT 78

April 14, 2021

DAILY SUMMARY FOR APRIL 14, 2021

On Wednesday, the House passed bills outlining several tax credits and exemptions.

HB1157 would double the income tax deduction for a teacher's qualified classroom expense from $250 to $500.

HB1513 creates an income tax credit for up to $3,500 for retired law enforcement officers who work cold cases for Arkansas State Police.

HB1196 would provide a sales and use tax exemption for water used by a poultry farm.

HB1054 allows for sales tax exemptions of isolated sales at special events.

The House also passed the following:

HB1879-This bill allows tuition waivers for dependents of disabled veterans, prisoners of war, or a person declared missing in action or killed in action to be used at private and non-profit institutions of higher education. The amount of the waiver would be capped at the maximum amount of those at state-supported institutions.

HB1849-This bill states a vehicle shall not be driven upon the left lane of a multilane highway, except as follows:

(1) When overtaking and passing another vehicle proceeding in the same direction under the rules

governing that movement

(2) When all other lanes for traveling in the same direction are closed to traffic while under construction or repair

(3) When all other lanes for traveling in the same direction are in disrepair or are in an otherwise undrivable or unsafe condition

(4) When a vehicle is preparing to exit the multilane highway on the left

HB1767-This bill allows the operation of a personal delivery device in pedestrian areas and certain streets.

HB1547-This bill states that a state agency or a state or local official shall not mandate an individual to receive a vaccine for COVID-19. It also states that if a state-controlled facility desires to mandate an individual to receive a vaccine, then the agency can make the request to the Arkansas Legislative Council. If a variant of COVID-19 occurs and mutates to be a more virulent strain that impacts children within two years from the date that the United States Food and Drug Administration approved the vaccine, then the Department of Health can request a meeting with the Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee.

SB139-This bill allows a student applying for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program or the Minority Teacher Scholarship Program to use his or her ACT super score.

The House will convene on Thursday at 1 pm.