



# NEWSLETTER FROM REP. Deborah Ferguson DISTRICT 63

January 29, 2019

## DAILY SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 29, 2019

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The House Public Transportation Committee advanced several pieces of legislation today.

HB1100 addresses veteran designations on Arkansas driver's licenses. This bill gives a veteran more options to prove their veteran status when they go the DMV for a license. This designation makes it easier on veterans to receive access to benefits.

HB1241 allows the Department of Community Correction 6 months after an inmate's release to help him or her obtain a state ID or driver's license. Current requirements state the department can only assist in the months prior to his or her release. State issued identification helps probationers and parolees find housing and employment.

HB1012 authorizes the issuance of a Purple Heart recipient special license plate to a surviving spouse.

HB1011 gives the Department of Aeronautics more flexibility for their grant program. Currently, the department can only award grants on the site of an airport. This allows them to use grants to promote aviation off site.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The House Education Committee advanced SB56. This amends

the membership of the Arkansas Higher Education coordinating board. It expands the number of members from business and industry in an effort to better partner with business community.

## JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The House Judiciary Committee advanced several pieces of legislation including HB1239 which updates what is included in a search for a parolee's residence. Currently, law enforcement officers and probation officers are not allowed to search an out-building or garage. The Judiciary Committee also advanced HB1242 which ensures the Department of Community Corrections has the authority to oversee and license transitional housing facilities.



The House will convene again on Wednesday at 1:30 pm.