



STATE OF ARKANSAS

House of Representatives



Newsletter From Rep. Matthew J. Shepherd District 97

January 14, 2025

Daily Summary for January 14th

On the second day of the 2025 Regular Session, the Governor addressed the 95th General Assembly, outlining her legislative priorities for the session.

She announced a new initiative called Arkansas ACCESS, aimed at expanding access to higher education and non-degree credentials for Arkansans.

The Governor also proposed working with the legislature to eliminate the state grocery tax and outlined a plan to use revenue from the sale of medical marijuana to provide free school breakfasts for all Arkansas students.

Additionally, she called for legislation to ban cell phones in schools and to update the Social Media Safety Act to ensure it can be enforced without legal challenges.

The Governor also proposed expanding the Communist China Defense Act, divesting state resources from China, and banning adversaries from buying land around infrastructure such as military bases and electric substations.

Meanwhile, the House adopted House Concurrent Resolution 1003, approving a four-day recess starting at the close of business on Thursday. The recess will extend through the weekend and include the observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday.

The House is scheduled to reconvene on Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.

