

# ARKANSAS BUSINESS

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## Opportunity Lost

**T**HE ARKANSAS GENERAL Assembly has, for the third time, missed its chance to right the wrong inflicted on this state with the enactment of the Check Cashers Act of 1999. While much time was spent trying to figure out how to divide up the spoils of the General Improvement

Fund and whether to allow cities to allow people to carry open containers of alcohol and how to salvage the concept of tax-increment financing, Sen. Tracy Steele's bill to protect Arkansans from loan sharks charging upwards of 300 percent interest went nowhere. ■