

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Representative Mahony**

A BILL ACT 980 OF 1991
HOUSE BILL 1033

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH QUALIFICATIONS FOR VALEDICTORIAN AND
9 SALUTATORIAN, DISTINCTION AS AN HONOR GRADUATE OF A HIGH
10 SCHOOL AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OR ITS
11 EQUIVALENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

12
13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

14
15 SECTION 1. (a) Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, only a student
16 who has successfully completed a minimum core of high school courses
17 recommended for preparation *for postsecondary education or a more rigorous*
18 *program of vocational study* shall be eligible for the honor of serving as a
19 valedictorian or salutatorian of his or her graduating class.

20 (b) Beginning with the 1993-94 school year, only a student who has
21 successfully completed the minimum core of high school courses recommended for
22 preparation for postsecondary education or a more rigorous program of
23 vocational study with a minimum grade point *established by the school district*
24 or its equivalent shall be eligible for distinction as an honor graduate of a
25 senior class in a high school in this state.

26 (c) (1) For the purpose of meeting the requirements of (a) and (b) above,
27 the students must complete the minimum core of courses recommended by the
28 State Board of Higher Education and State Board of Education pursuant to
29 Arkansas Code 6-61-217 enlisted during the period of his enrollment in high
30 school. The State Board of Education shall establish the requirements for a
31 *technical preparation* which shall include the following:

32 (A) Require students to complete at least three credits each in
33 mathematics and science, with at least two credits in each area from
34 courses with content comparable to that in the college preparatory
35 curriculum. The two higher level math and science courses may be
36 courses designed to teach essential content from the college preparatory

1 curriculum through an applied or functional instructional process; and

2 (B) Require students to complete at least four credits in a
3 vocational major and two related vocational credits.

4 (2) The State Board of Education shall *study the impact of abolishing*
5 *the general program of studies track in high school and requiring all students*
6 *thereafter to complete either the college preparatory or technical preparation*
7 *program of study aimed at preparing youth to continue to learn either in the*
8 *workplace or in some form of postsecondary institution and report the findings*
9 *to the Joint Interim Committee on Education by September 15, 1992.*

10

11 SECTION 2. (a) Beginning with the 1991-92 school year, only a student
12 who is enrolled in a course of study containing the minimum core of high
13 school courses recommended for preparation for postsecondary education as set
14 forth by the State Board of Higher Education and State Board of Education
15 pursuant to Arkansas Code 6-61-217 or *the technical preparation program* as set
16 forth by the State Board of Education shall be eligible for membership in the
17 National Honor Society or any equivalent *academic honor society*.

18 (b) *A student who is a member of any academic honor society on the*
19 *effective date of this act shall be exempt from the provisions of (a) above.*

20

21 SECTION 3. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature
22 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
23 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

24

25 SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to
26 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
27 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without
28 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
29 Act are declared to be severable.

30

31 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
32 hereby repealed.

33

34 /s/J. Mahony

35

36 APPROVED: 4/1/91