

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: H2/21/03 H2/28/03

A Bill

Act 675 of 2003
HOUSE BILL 1439

5 By: Representatives Elliott, White, Goss, Mahony, Lamoureux, Penix, Medley
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRADES
10 NINE (9) THROUGH TWELVE (12) TO ATTEND A FULL
11 SCHOOL DAY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO REQUIRE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
15 IN GRADES NINE (9) THROUGH TWELVE (12)
16 TO ATTEND A FULL SCHOOL DAY.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 *SECTION 1. For purposes of this act:*

22 (1) "Financial hardships" mean harm or suffering caused by a
23 student's inability to obtain or provide basic life necessities of food,
24 clothing, and shelter for the student or the student's family; and

25 (2) "Planned instructional time" means regularly scheduled class
26 periods offering organized teaching of a Department of Education sanctioned
27 class curriculum.
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29 *SECTION 2. (a) Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, students in*
30 grades nine through twelve (9-12) shall be required to schedule and attend a
31 full school day.

32 (b)(1) No later than January 30, 2004, the State Board of Education
33 shall promulgate regulations that require students in grades nine through
34 twelve (9-12) to enroll in no fewer than three hundred fifty (350) minutes of
35 planned instructional time each day as a requirement for graduation.

36 (2)(A) The regulations shall allow local school boards of



1 directors to develop policies to allow:

2 (i) Students to be assigned to no more than one (1) class
3 period each day for a study hall period which the student shall be required
4 to attend and participate in a full class period of self-study or organized
5 tutoring in the school building; and

6 (ii)(a) No more than one (1) class period each day for
7 organized and scheduled student extracurricular classes to be included as
8 planned instructional time.

9 (b) If the extracurricular class is related to a
10 seasonal activity, the class must continue to meet after the season ends to
11 be counted toward the requirement of planned instructional time.

12 (2) The regulation shall allow local school boards of directors
13 to develop policies for granting waivers to students who would experience
14 proven financial hardships if required to attend a full school day.

15 (c) Enrollment and attendance to vocational-educational training
16 courses, college courses, school work programs, and other Department of
17 Education sanctioned educational programs may be used to satisfy the
18 requirements of this section, even if the program is not located at the
19 public schools.

20 (d) Nothing in this bill precludes a student who has meet all
21 graduation requirements from graduating early.

22 /s/ Elliott, et al

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25 **APPROVED: 3/26/2003**
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