

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.

**Act 1241 of the Regular Session**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4

*As Engrossed: H3/9/05*

**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 2653

5 By: Representatives Dickinson, Abernathy, Berry, Blount, Bolin, Boyd, Childers, Cowling, Davis, Dunn,  
6 Edwards, Elliott, D. Evans, L. Evans, Everett, Fite, George, Jeffrey, J. Johnson, Kenney, Key, Mack,  
7 Mahony, M. Martin, Matayo, Mathis, Maxwell, Nichols, Norton, Overbey, Petrus, Ragland, Rainey,  
8 Rankin, Sample, Saunders, Thyer, Verkamp, Walters, Wells, Wills, Wood, Wyatt  
9 By: Senators Bryles, Baker, J. Bookout, Broadway, Capps, Critcher, G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, Miller

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

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11  
12 AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S  
13 SCHOLARSHIP TO A STUDENT IN EACH OF THE SEVENTY-  
14 FIVE (75) COUNTIES IN ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER  
15 PURPOSES.  
16

**Subtitle**

17  
18 AN ACT TO PROVIDE AN ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S  
19 SCHOLARSHIP TO A STUDENT IN EACH OF THE  
20 SEVENTY-FIVE (75) COUNTIES IN ARKANSAS.  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-82-308 is amended to read as follows:

27 6-82-308. Number and geographic distribution of scholarships.

28 (a) If sufficient funds are available, effective for students  
29 receiving their initial awards beginning in fall ~~2004~~ 2005, the number of  
30 initial scholarship awards to eligible high achievers shall not exceed ~~two~~  
31 ~~hundred seventy five (275)~~ three hundred twenty-five (325) each year, to be  
32 distributed as follows:

33 (1) Up to two hundred fifty (250) Arkansas Governor's  
34 Distinguished Scholarships; and

35 (2) (A) Twenty-five (25) ~~Twenty-five (25)~~ Seventy-five (75) Arkansas Governor's



1 Scholarships at four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per year.

2 (B) The seventy-five (75) Arkansas Governor's Scholarships  
3 shall be awarded to one (1) student in each of the seventy-five (75) counties  
4 in Arkansas.

5 (b)(1) Effective for students receiving their initial awards beginning  
6 in fall ~~2002~~ 2004, up to two hundred fifty (250) initial Arkansas Governor's  
7 Distinguished Scholarship awards and twenty-five (25) initial Arkansas  
8 Governor's Scholarship awards may be provided if, at the end of calendar year  
9 2001 and each year thereafter, the Department of Higher Education can  
10 demonstrate, based on economic projections and revenue forecasts relative to  
11 the number of Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship recipients then  
12 receiving the scholarship, that sufficient funds are available for that  
13 purpose.

14 (2) A report of the same shall be submitted to the House Interim  
15 Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education and the  
16 Legislative Council for review prior to obligating the funds.

17 (3) Should a shortfall of funds be projected, the department  
18 shall promulgate regulations for the priority funding of these scholarships  
19 and submit these proposed regulations to the Arkansas Higher Education  
20 Coordinating Board for a public hearing and to the Legislative Council  
21 through its Rules and Regulations Subcommittee for review before implementing  
22 the regulations.

23 ~~(c) The department is authorized to adjust the distribution of these~~  
24 ~~scholarships to ensure one (1) award in each of the seventy five (75)~~  
25 ~~counties.~~

26  
27 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
28 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that new scholarships under the  
29 Arkansas Governor's scholarship program need to be awarded to students  
30 graduating in May of 2005; that the Department of Higher Education needs  
31 sufficient time to solicit and receive scholarship applications; and that  
32 this act is immediately necessary to ensure the proper administration of the  
33 scholarship program. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this  
34 act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace,  
35 health, and safety shall become effective on:

36 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

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(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

*/s/ Dickinson, et al*

*APPROVED: 3/24/2005*

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