

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 1462 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 452

5 By: Senators Salmon, Madison, Elliott, Teague
6 By: Representatives Saunders, Ragland, House
7
8

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE TASK
11 FORCE ON THE ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF
12 ARKANSAS HISTORY EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE TASK
16 FORCE ON THE STATUS OF ARKANSAS HISTORY
17 EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
22

23 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE - DO NO CODIFY.

24 (a) There is created the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Arkansas
25 History Education.

26 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

27 (1) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee;

28 (2) One (1) member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro
29 Tempore of the Senate;

30 (3) One (1) member of the House of Representatives appointed by
31 the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

32 (4) Two (2) members at large appointed by the Governor;

33 (5) Two (2) parents of children enrolled in the public school
34 system appointed by the Governor;

35 (6) Two (2) school administrators selected by the Arkansas



1 Association of School Administrators;

2 (7) Two (2) teachers of Arkansas history selected by the
3 Arkansas Council for the Social Studies;

4 (8) Two (2) members appointed by the Executive Director of the
5 Arkansas Educational Television Network;

6 (9) Two (2) members appointed by the Arkansas State Historian;

7 (10) Two (2) members appointed by the President of the Arkansas
8 History Education Coalition;

9 (11) Two (2) members appointed by the President of the Arkansas
10 Historical Association;

11 (12) Two (2) members appointed by the Director of the Department
12 of Arkansas Heritage; and

13 (13) Two (2) members appointed by the Director of the Department
14 of Parks and Tourism.

15 (c)(1) The member of the House of Representatives and the member of
16 the Senate appointed to the task force under subsection (b) of this section
17 shall serve as cochairs of the task force.

18 (2) Meetings of the task force shall be held at least one (1)
19 time every three (3) months but may occur more often at the call of the
20 cochairs or by petition by a majority of the members.

21 (3) The task force may solicit, accept, and expend gifts and
22 grants.

23 (d) If a vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy shall be filled
24 by the same process as the original appointment.

25 (e) The task force shall establish rules and procedures for conducting
26 business.

27 (f) Legislative members of the task force shall be entitled to receive
28 reimbursement for expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same
29 source as provided by law for members of the General Assembly attending
30 meetings of interim committees.

31 (g) A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a
32 quorum for transacting any business of the task force.

33 (h) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff for the task
34 force.

35 (i) The task force shall be abolished on June 1, 2011.

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1 SECTION 2. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE - DO NOT CODIFY.

2 (a) The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Arkansas History Education
3 shall:

4 (1) Assess the status of Arkansas history education in public
5 schools;

6 (2) Compile information on the need for and availability of
7 instructional materials for Arkansas history classes;

8 (3) Investigate ways state agencies, museums, libraries,
9 professional groups, and other interested parties can contribute to Arkansas
10 history education;

11 (4) Review Arkansas history preparation programs for elementary
12 and secondary teachers;

13 (5) Identify means for recognizing outstanding teachers of
14 Arkansas history;

15 (6) Investigate ways Arkansas history can be used to reinforce
16 instruction in other subject areas; and

17 (7) Develop a set of written recommendations for the General
18 Assembly that will improve the Arkansas history curriculum taught in public
19 schools.

20 (b) The taskforce shall submit two (2) reports to the House Committee
21 on Education and the Senate Committee on Education consisting of a:

22 (1) Status report not later than June 1, 2010; and

23 (2) Final report not later than May 1, 2011.

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25 **APPROVED: 4/10/2009**