

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: H4/10/03

A Bill

Act 1801 of 2003
HOUSE BILL 2842

5 By: Representative White
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 6, CHAPTER
10 17, SUBCHAPTER 2 TO PROVIDE FOR AN INTERIM
11 PERSONNEL POLICIES COMMITTEE IN THE EVENT OF
12 CONSOLIDATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 6,
16 CHAPTER 17, SUBCHAPTER 2 TO PROVIDE FOR
17 AN INTERIM PERSONNEL POLICIES COMMITTEE
18 IN THE EVENT OF CONSOLIDATION.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 2 is amended*
25 *to add the following section:*

26 *6-17-209. Interim personnel policy committees.*

27 *(a) For purposes of this section the following definitions shall*
28 *apply:*

29 *(1) "Consolidation" means any reorganization, merger, collapse,*
30 *or annexation of any school districts or portions thereof either voluntarily*
31 *or involuntarily;*

32 *(2) "Interim school board" means a board consisting of the*
33 *presidents of the school district boards of directors of the school districts*
34 *to be consolidated which shall be formed for the purpose of reviewing and*
35 *adopting a uniform set of policies under this section; and*

36 *(3) "New school district" means the resulting school district*



1 after consolidation.

2 (b) As soon as possible after the school boards or the qualified
3 electors of the school districts agree to be consolidated or as soon as
4 possible after any decision is made that the school districts are to be
5 involuntarily consolidated, the personnel policy committee of each of the
6 school districts involved in the consolidation shall meet individually and
7 elect members to form an interim personnel policy committee for the new
8 school district.

9 (1) The personnel policy committees of the existing school
10 district shall elect:

11 (A) If three (3) or fewer school districts are
12 consolidating, three (3) existing teacher members of the personnel policy
13 committee from each school district to serve on the interim personnel policy
14 committee; or

15 (B) If four (4) or more school districts are
16 consolidating, two (2) existing teacher members of the personnel policy
17 committee from each school district to serve on the interim personnel policy
18 committee; and

19 (C) One (1) administrator from each of the school
20 districts to serve on the interim personnel policy committee.

21 (2) The interim personnel policy committee shall elect a
22 chairperson and a secretary, both of whom shall be classroom teachers, and
23 schedule a calendar of meetings to review all the written uniform policies of
24 the respective districts that affect the terms and conditions of the
25 teachers' employment. From those written policies the interim personnel
26 policy committee shall put together a proposed set of policies for the new
27 school district.

28 (c)(1) After drafting a proposed set of policies for the new school
29 district, the interim personnel policy committee shall meet with the interim
30 school board of the new school district to present and explain to the interim
31 school board the proposed set of policies for the new school district.

32 (2) Upon request of the interim personnel policy committee, the
33 interim school board shall be entitled to and shall organize itself and meet
34 with the interim personnel policy committee at least twice prior to June 1 of
35 the school year prior to consolidation for the purpose of reviewing,
36 receiving, and discussing with the interim personnel policy committee the

1 proposed policies for the new school district.

2 (d) The interim personnel policy committee shall serve as the new
3 school district's personnel policy committee until a new personnel policy
4 committee is formed and successor personnel policy committee members are
5 elected pursuant to this subchapter or until the new school district chooses
6 to officially recognize in its policies an organization representing a
7 majority of the teachers in the district for purposes of negotiating as
8 provided for under this subchapter.

9 (e) The interim school board shall adopt a uniform set of policies
10 prior to the effective date of the consolidation which shall be the personnel
11 policies for the new school district.

12 (1) In the event the interim school board decides to adopt any
13 policy or policies different from those proposed by the interim personnel
14 policy committee, the interim school board shall submit such proposals to the
15 interim personnel policy committee at least seven (7) calendar days prior to
16 being considered for adoption by the board.

17 (2) The chair of the interim personnel policy committee or a
18 committee member designated by the chair will have the opportunity to orally
19 comment on any of the interim school board's proposals prior to their
20 adoption.

21 (3) Any written policy of a new school district that affects the
22 terms and conditions of a teacher's employment shall be considered a
23 personnel policy.

24 (4) The new personnel policies shall not impair or diminish the
25 existing contract rights of any teacher.

26 (f) In the event a school district with a personnel policy committee
27 consolidates with another school that recognizes in its policies an
28 organization representing the majority of the teachers of the district for
29 the purpose of negotiation personnel policies, salaries, and educational
30 matters of mutual concern pursuant to § 6-17-202, each teacher in the
31 district with the personnel policy committee shall have the right, in their
32 first year of employment with the new district, to elect to have their
33 contract governed by the negotiated personnel policies of the new district or
34 to continue with the terms of their existing contract under the personnel
35 policies of the district they were employed by the year prior to the
36 consolidation.

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/s/ White

APPROVED: 4/23/2003