

Hall of the House of Representatives
84th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2003
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2237

"AN ACT TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOURS OF TRAINING THAT MEMBERS OF
THE SCHOOL BOARDS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE FOLLOWING ELECTION."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2237.

Amend House Bill No. 2237 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete line 25 through 36, and substitute the following:

"(a)(1)(A)(i) All Beginning July 1, 2003, all members of a school district board of directors elected at each annual school election for an initial or non-continuous term shall receive obtain a minimum of six (6) fifteen (15) hours training and instruction in the school laws of this state and in the laws governing the powers, duties, and responsibilities of school boards on or before March 1 of the year following the election.

(ii) The training and instruction of the board of directors shall include topics relevant to school laws, school operations and the member's powers, duties, and responsibilities as board of directors' members, including, but not limited to, legal requirements, role differentiation, financial management, and improving student achievement.

(B) By December 31 of each calendar year thereafter, in addition to the fifteen (15) hours training requirement in subdivision (a)(1)(A), new members of a school district board of directors shall also comply with all other training requirements contained in this section, for a total of twenty-four (24) hours of training obtained between the time of their election and the end of their first full calendar year of office, and nine (9) hours each year thereafter.

(C)(i) Beginning January 1, 2004, and every year thereafter, all existing and reelected board members shall obtain a minimum of nine (9) hours training and instruction by December 31 of each calendar year.

(ii) The training and instruction of the board of directors shall include topics relevant to school laws, school operations and the member's powers, duties, and responsibilities as board of directors' members, including, but not limited to, legal requirements, role differentiation, financial management, and improving student achievement.

(D) Hours of training and instruction obtained in excess of the minimum requirements may cumulate and be carried over from year to year.

(2) This instruction may be received from an institution of higher learning in this state, from instruction sponsored by the Department



of Education, or by an in-service training program conducted by the Arkansas School Boards Association.

(3) Any school board member completing a course of instruction shall receive a certification of completion, and a copy shall be entered into the minutes of the local school board on which he or she serves, and forwarded by the local school board to the Department of Education within five (5) days of receipt by the board.

~~(4) Upon having completed the course of instruction meeting the minimum requirements of this section, it shall not be necessary for a school board member to take an additional course of instruction upon being reelected to the school board.~~

(4)(A)(i) Should any member of a school district board of directors elected for an initial or non-continuous term, fail to obtain the required training under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(i), by March 1 and fails to correct the deficiency with ninety (90) days from the date of receiving notice of the deficiency, a vacancy shall exist on the board of directors by operation of law from the date of receipt of notification by the superintendent.

(ii) On or before March 10 of each year, the Department of Education shall notify, by certified mail, return receipt requested, any school board member that is deficient on any training requirement under subdivision (a)(1)(A)(i).

(iii) No vacancy shall exist if a members is granted and extension due to military service of the member or illness as provided under subdivision (a)(5).

(B) The Department of Education shall immediately notify the superintendent by certified mail, return receipt requested, with a copy to the board president, of the existence of a vacancy on the board of directors, and the resulting vacancy may be filled by appointment by a majority of the remaining members of the board of directors, as is provided by law.

(5) Should any member of a school district board of directors, fail to obtain the required training under subdivisions (a)(1)(B) or (a)(1)(C), the member shall receive a citation from the Department of Education noting the deficiency with a copy mailed to the superintendent and the local school board.

(6)(A) If a member of a school district board of directors is unable to obtain the required training because of military service of the member, or illness of the member verified by a written sworn statement from the member's attending physician, the Department of Education shall grant a time extension permitting the member additional time to obtain required training.

(B) The issuance of a time extension shall not operate to remove a member of a school district board of directors from office.

(b) Local school district boards of directors are authorized to pay per diem and other necessary expenses from funds belonging to the school district and to reimburse school board directors for expenses incurred in attending in-service workshops, conferences, and other courses of training and instruction required in completing ~~a minimum of six (6) hours the~~ training and of instruction as required in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) It shall be the responsibility of the Department of Education to receive and maintain records of instructional hours obtained by members of

school district boards of directors.

(2) The State Board of Education may promulgate rules and regulations consistent with the provisions and intent of this section."

AND

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 22 entirely

The Amendment was read _____
By: Representative Pickett
KAS/VJF - 032520030956
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Chief Clerk