

Hall of the House of Representatives

87th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2009

Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1408

"TO RESTRICT THE ENROLLMENT OF CHILDREN SIXTEEN (16) YEARS OF AGE AND
SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS OF AGE IN ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1408.

Amend House Bill No. 1408 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete all the language after the enacting clause and substitute the following language:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(a)(4) and (5) concerning compulsory attendance exceptions is amended to read as follows:

(4)(A) Any child age sixteen (16) years of age or above older who is enrolled in an adult education program as provided for in subsection (b) of this section or in the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program is not subject to the attendance requirement.

(B) The requirements in subsection (b) of this section shall not apply to the Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program; ~~and.~~

~~(5) Any child age sixteen (16) or above enrolled in an adult education program prior to June 13, 1994, under a waiver granted by the local school district who is currently attending the program is not subject to the attendance requirement.~~

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(b) concerning enrollment in adult education programs is amended to read as follows:

(b) A local school district may grant a waiver of the attendance requirement to any student ~~age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17)~~ years of age to enroll in an adult education program only after all of the following requirements have been met:

(1)(A) The student attends an alternative learning environment program before enrolling in an adult education program.

(B) If, after a formal assessment is conducted by the alternative learning environment program, it is determined that an adult education program is in the best interest of the student, the student may be referred to an adult education program;

~~(1)(2)~~ (2) The student makes formal application to the school district for a waiver to enroll in an adult education program;

~~(2)(3)(A)~~ (3)(A) After formal application and prior to any further action on the application, the student shall be administered either a test



for adult basic education or a General Educational Development Practice Test under standardized testing conditions by a public school official designated by the school and shall score 8.5 grade level or above on the test for adult basic education or a minimum score of four hundred fifty (450) on each section and a minimum composite score of four hundred ninety (490) on the General Educational Development Practice Test.

(B) Provided, however, that the minimum test scores shall not be required of any student who is subject to the attendance requirement of this section but who was not enrolled in any school district during the previous school year;

~~(3)~~(4) The student and the student's parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis meet with the school counselor to discuss academic options open to the student;

~~(4)~~(5) The school district determines that the student is a proper candidate for enrollment in adult education, contingent upon approval by the appropriate adult education program;

~~(5)~~(6) The adult education program reviews the student's school and testing records and agrees to admit the student into the adult education program;

~~(6)~~(7) The adult education program shall report attendance of all sixteen-year-old and seventeen-year-old enrollees to the sending school district on at least a monthly basis;

~~(7)~~(8)(A) The adult education program shall require for continued enrollment a minimum of twenty (20) hours per week of class attendance and instruction.

(B) Provided, however, that a minimum of ten (10) hours shall be required for any student who is employed for thirty (30) hours or more each week;

~~(8)~~(9) The student, the student's parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis, and the administrative head of the adult education program agree in writing that the student will attend the requisite number of hours per week and maintain appropriate conduct as outlined in the local adult education program student handbook;

~~(9)~~(10) In the event that a more appropriate assessment test or testing and assessment mechanism shall be developed to determine a reasonable level of competency for success at the adult education level, that test or mechanism shall be substituted, with the approval of the Adult Education Section of the Department of Workforce Education, for the tests required in subdivision (b)(2) of this section;

~~(10)~~(11) In the event that a student does not attend class as mandated in this subsection or make reasonable progress toward the completion of the adult education curriculum, the student shall reenroll in a public school within five (5) days from the date the student is released from the adult education program; and

~~(11)~~(12) The requirements in this subsection (b) shall not apply to students enrolled in a private, parochial, or home school in the state."

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(f) concerning enrollment in school is amended to read as follows:

(f)(1) Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the school district and

may be placed in ~~the first~~ grade one (1) if the:

(A) ~~results~~ Results of the evaluation justify placement of the child in ~~this first~~ grade one (1); and

(B) ~~the child's~~ Child's parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis ~~agrees~~ agree with placement of the child in ~~the first~~ grade one (1).

(2) Otherwise, the child shall be placed in kindergarten."

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative Rainey

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Chief Clerk