

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Representative Mahony**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1008

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE 'TECH-PREP PROGRAMS' THROUGH THE
9 DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDING OF CONSORTIUMS BETWEEN SECONDARY
10 AND POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THIS STATE;
11 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

12
13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

14
15 SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the "Tech-Prep Education Act."

16
17 SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. As used in this act, unless the context
18 otherwise requires:

19 (1) "Articulation agreement" means a commitment to a program designed
20 to provide students with a nonduplicative sequence of progressive achievement
21 leading to competencies in a tech-prep education program.

22 (2) "Tech-prep education program" means a combined secondary and
23 postsecondary program which:

24 (A) leads to an associate degree or two-year certificate;

25 (B) provides technical preparation in at least one field of
26 engineering technology, applied science, mechanical, industrial, or practical
27 art or trade, or agriculture, health, or business;

28 (C) builds student competence in mathematics, science, and
29 communications (including through applied academics) through a sequential
30 course of study; and

31 (D) leads to placement in employment.

32
33 SECTION 3. (a) The State Board of *Technical and Community Colleges*
34 shall award grants for tech-prep education programs to consortia of:

35 (1) *Public* schools serving secondary school students; and

1 (2) Community colleges or postsecondary vocational-technical
2 schools (or their successors) which offer a two-year associate degree program
3 or a two-year certificate program; or

4 (3) Other state-supported institutions of higher education which
5 offer a two-year associate degree program or a two-year certificate program.

6 (b) The board shall make available to the consortia the amount allotted
7 to the State in accordance with the provisions of 20 U.S.C. §2351 et seq.

8 (c) From the amounts made available to the State, the board, in
9 accordance with this act, shall award grants on a competitive basis or on the
10 basis of a formula determined by the board, for tech-prep education programs.

11

12 SECTION 4. (a) Each grant recipient shall use amounts provided under
13 the grant to develop and operate a four-year tech-prep education program.

14 (b) Any such program shall:

15 (1) be carried out under an articulation agreement between the
16 participants in the consortium;

17 (2) consist of the two years of secondary school preceding
18 graduation and two years of higher education, or an apprenticeship program of
19 at least two years following secondary instruction, with a common core of
20 required proficiency in mathematics, science, communications, and technologies
21 designed to lead to an associate degree or certificate in a specific career
22 field;

23 (3) include in-service training for teachers that:

24 (A) is designed to train teachers to effectively implement
25 tech-prep education curricula;

26 (B) provides for joint training for teachers from all
27 participants in the consortium; and

28 (C) may provide such training in weekend, evening, and
29 summer sessions, institutes or workshops;

30 (4) include training programs for counselors designed to enable
31 counselors to more effectively:

32 (A) recruit students for tech-prep education programs;

33 (B) ensure that such students successfully complete such
34 programs; and

35 (C) ensure that such students are placed in appropriate
36 employment;

1 (5) provide equal access to the full range of technical
2 preparation programs to individuals who are members of special populations,
3 including the development of tech-prep education program services appropriate
4 to the needs of such individuals; and

5 (6) provide for preparatory services which assist all
6 participants in such programs.

7 (c) In addition, each such program may:

8 (1) provide for the acquisition of tech-prep education program
9 equipment; and

10 (2) as part of the program's planning activities, acquire
11 technical assistance from the state or local entities that have successfully
12 designed, established and operated tech-prep programs.

13

14 SECTION 5. (a) Each consortium that desires to receive a grant under
15 this act shall submit an application to the director or the state board, as
16 appropriate, at such time and in such manner as the state board shall
17 prescribe through rule or regulation.

18 (b) Each application submitted under this act shall contain a three-
19 year plan for the development and implementation of activities under this
20 part.

21 (c) The State Board of *Technical and Community Colleges* Education shall
22 approve applications based on their potential to create an effective tech-prep
23 education program as provided in this act.

24 (d) The board shall give special consideration to applications which:

25 (1) provide for effective employment placement activities or
26 transfer of students to four-year baccalaureate degree programs;

27 (2) are developed in consultation with business, industry, and
28 labor unions; and

29 (3) address effectively the issues of dropout prevention and re-
30 entry and the needs of minority youths, youths of limited English proficiency,
31 youths with handicaps, and disadvantaged youths.

32

33 SECTION 6. (a) In making grants under this act, the board shall ensure
34 an equitable distribution of assistance throughout the State, and shall ensure
35 an equitable distribution of assistance between urban and rural consortium

1 participants.

2 (b) (1) In the case of grants made by the board, each consortium that
 3 submits an application under this act shall provide notice of such submission
 4 and a copy of such application to the State Board of Higher Education and the
 5 *state-wide advisory group for vocational and technical programs*.

6 (2) The director shall notify the State Board of Higher Education
 7 and the *state-wide advisory group for vocational and technical programs* each
 8 time a consortium located in the state is selected to receive a grant under
 9 this act.

10

11 SECTION 7. (a) In the case of grants made by the board, each grant
 12 recipient shall, with respect to assistance received under this act, submit to
 13 the *department* such reports as may be required by the *Secretary of the United*
 14 *States Department of Education* to ensure that such grant recipient is
 15 complying with the requirements of this act.

16 (b) After grant recipients who receive grants in the first year in
 17 which grants are made under this act complete their eligibility under the
 18 program, the director shall submit to the General Assembly a report evaluating
 19 the effectiveness of the program under this act.

20

21 SECTION 8. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
 22 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
 23 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

24

25 SECTION 9. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
 26 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
 27 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
 28 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
 29 act are declared to be severable.

30

31 SECTION 10. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
 32 hereby repealed.

33

/s/J. Mahony

34

35

1

2