

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2026

4 **By: Representatives Pollan, *Argue, Wilkins, and Northcutt***

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE ANNOTATED §6-18-222 TO
9 REQUIRE THAT EXCESSIVE ABSENCES SHALL NOT BE A BASIS FOR
10 STUDENT SUSPENSION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

14 "TO REQUIRE THAT EXCESSIVE ABSENCES SHALL NOT BE A BASIS
15 FOR SUSPENSION IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS."

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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §6-18-222(a)(1) is hereby amended to read as
20 follows:

21 "(a)(1)(A) The board of directors of each school district in this state
22 shall adopt a student attendance policy as provided for in §6-18-209 which
23 shall include a certain number of excessive absences which may be used as a
24 basis for denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation. However,
25 excessive absences shall not be a basis for suspension, expulsion or dismissal
26 of a student.

27 (B) The legislative intent is that a student having
28 excessive absences because of illness, accident, or other unavoidable reasons
29 should be given assistance in obtaining credit for the courses.

30 (C) *The superintendent of a school district may file a*
31 *petition for family in need of services (FINS) with the juvenile court, as*
32 *authorized under § 9-27-310(b)(3)(A), for any student who is insubordinate to*
33 *school personnel in accepting corrective action resulting from excessive*
34 *absences. After an adjudication hearing under § 9-27-327 with the entire*
35 *family present, the school district shall cooperate fully with the court in*

1 any disposition ordered."
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3 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
4 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
5 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.
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7 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
8 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
9 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
10 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
11 act are declared to be severable.
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13 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
14 hereby repealed.
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19 /s/Carolyn Pollan
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