

1 **State of Arkansas**

2 **79th General Assembly**

3 **Regular Session, 1993**

4 **By: Senator Canada, Moore, Bearden, and Walters**

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 *"AN ACT TO TRANSFER THE DIVISION OF REHABILITATIVE*
9 *SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO THE*
10 *DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION OF THE*
11 *DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."*

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Subtitle

14 *"TO TRANSFER THE DIVISION OF REHABILITATION*
15 *SERVICES OF DHS TO THE VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION*
16 *DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION."*

17

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

19

20 *SECTION 1. Effective July 1, 1993, the Division of Rehabilitation*
21 *Services of the Department of Human Services is transferred to the Division of*
22 *Vocational and Technical Education of the Department of Education, and shall*
23 *be known as the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services. The State Board of*
24 *Vocational Education shall have the same authority and responsibility with*
25 *respect to the administration and operation of the Arkansas Rehabilitation*
26 *Services as it has with respect to the Division of Vocational and Technical*
27 *Education.*

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29 *SECTION 2. The policy and scope of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services*
30 *shall be to provide increased employment of individuals with disabilities*
31 *through the provision of individualized training, independent living services,*
32 *educational and support services, and meaningful opportunities for employment*
33 *in integrated work settings to maximize employment, economic self-sufficiency,*
34 *independence, and inclusion and integration into society.*

35 *Pursuant to such policy, rehabilitation services shall be provided to*

1 citizens throughout the state and the rehabilitation plan adopted pursuant to
2 this act shall be in effect in all political subdivisions of the state.

3

4 SECTION 3. All authorities and responsibilities defined in Act 43 of
5 1955 as amended shall be administered by the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services,
6 under the direction of the State Board of Vocational Education except those
7 transferred to the Division of State Services for the Blind by Act 481 of
8 1983.

9

10 SECTION 4. Any and all appropriations for the Division of
11 Rehabilitation Services of the Department of Human Services for fiscal year
12 1993, plus any additional legislative appropriation for the 1993-95 biennium
13 for the Division of Rehabilitation Services, shall be deemed to be
14 appropriated to and shall be made available for the operation and maintenance
15 of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the Division of Vocational and
16 Technical Education of the Department of Education. The Director of the
17 Department of Finance and Administration shall transfer to the Arkansas
18 Rehabilitation Services all appropriations and funds from any other sources in
19 the custody or control of the Department of Human Services which are
20 designated for the Division of Rehabilitation Services.

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22 SECTION 5. The State Board of Vocational Education, through the
23 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, shall provide the rehabilitation services
24 authorized by this act to eligible physically or mentally disabled individuals
25 and those who can benefit from independent living services, determined by the
26 agency to be eligible therefor, and, in carrying out the purposes of this act,
27 the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services is authorized, among other things:

28 (a) to be the sole state agency to supervise and administer the
29 rehabilitation services authorized by this act except such part or parts as
30 may be administered by a local agency in a political subdivision of the state,
31 in which case the service shall be the sole agency to supervise such local
32 agency in the administration of such part or parts; and

33 (b) to conduct research and compile statistics relative to the
34 provision of services or the need of services of disabled individuals.

35

1 SECTION 6. Any and all statutory authority, powers, duties, functions,
2 records, authorized positions, property, unexpended balances of
3 appropriations, allocations or other funds, transferred from the Division of
4 Rehabilitative Services to the Department of Human Services by Act 348 of 1985
5 are hereby transferred to the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the Division
6 of Vocational and Technical Education of the Department of Education.

7

8 SECTION 7. All employees of the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services as of
9 effective date of this act shall be eligible for membership in the Public
10 Employees Retirement System or Teacher Retirement System or alternate
11 retirement systems. Any such employee who desires to change retirement
12 systems must do so within ninety (90) calendar days after the effective date
13 of this act.

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15 SECTION 8. The Division of Rehabilitation Services of the Department of
16 Human Services as now constituted shall continue in existence for all
17 purposes, intact, until July 1, 1993, at which time said Division shall be
18 transferred to the Division of Vocational and Technical Education of the
19 Department of Education. The transfer shall include all employees, powers,
20 duties, licenses, privileges, equipment, vehicles, furniture, fixtures,
21 supplies, books, records, stock, goods, funds, unexpended appropriations and
22 facilities relating to rehabilitation services and training. The Department
23 of Human Services will transfer appropriate positions, as identified by the
24 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, necessary to meet Arkansas Rehabilitation
25 Services administration and program support needs in numbers not to exceed
26 those transferred from the Division of Rehabilitation Services to the
27 Department of Human Services by Acts 348 and 752 of 1985.

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29 SECTION 9. State Building Services shall insure that all offices of the
30 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services of the Division of Vocational and Technical
31 Education of the Department of Education are exemplary models of accessibility
32 and conform to Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines.

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34 SECTION 10. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
35 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas

.As Engrossed: 1/12/93 2/1/93 2/17/93 2/26/93

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