

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: H2/28/03 H4/2/03 H4/4/03

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1307

5 By: Representatives Lendall, Schulte
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE TEACHING OF AMERICAN SIGN
10 LANGUAGE AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
11 IN ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE TEACHING OF
15 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AS A FOREIGN
16 LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN ARKANSAS.
17
18
19
20
21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
23

24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1 is amended
25 to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 6-16-133. (a) American Sign Language may qualify as a foreign
27 language for the purpose of meeting requirements for public schools in
28 Arkansas if the course is conducted under the supervision of a licensed
29 teacher at the public school as approved by the principal.

30 (b)(1) All public elementary and secondary schools shall recognize
31 American Sign Language as a standard, independent language with its own
32 grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and cultural heritage.

33 (2) Courses in American Sign Language may be taught for the
34 purpose of contributing to a greater understanding of the social and cultural
35 dimensions of the language, and to encourage and enable increased interaction
36 between persons and deaf and hard of hearing persons in society.



01292003MGF1419.JGR267

