

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2526

5 By: Representative Haak
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF
10 THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT
11 OF HUMAN SERVICES COMPLY WITH THE STANDARDS OF
12 ACCREDITATION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF THE
13 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE DIVISION OF YOUTH
14 SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND
15 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
16

Subtitle

17 TO REQUIRE THAT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF
18 THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES COMPLY
19 WITH THE STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION, AND
20 TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF THE
21 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE DIVISION OF
22 YOUTH SERVICES.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-28-205 is amended to read as follows:
29 9-28-205. Youth services centers.

30 (a) The physical facilities and programs at each of the youth services
31 centers, whether state owned or contracted, shall be designed and developed
32 to be particularly suitable for the custody, care, education, and
33 rehabilitation of youths of particular classifications.

34 (b) In classifying and committing youths to the various centers and
35 facilities, the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human
36 Services shall take into consideration a youth's age, sex, physical



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1 condition, mental attitude and capacity, prognosis for rehabilitation, the
2 seriousness of the committing offense, and such other criteria as the
3 division shall determine.

4 (c) The Director of the Division of Youth Services shall prepare or
5 cause to be prepared courses of study, including regular education, ~~or~~
6 special courses in education, and vocational skills courses as required by
7 the Department of Education minimum standards for accreditation for
8 elementary and secondary public schools suited to the age and capacity of the
9 youths, and shall employ certified teachers to teach the courses.

10 (d) The courses of study taught shall conform to the established
11 guidelines for alternative learning environments ~~or~~ and the minimum standards
12 prescribed for the public schools of the state, and the students shall
13 receive from Arkansas elementary and secondary public schools the same credit
14 for courses completed ~~in the alternative learning environment or the same~~
15 ~~credit for completing courses as students receive~~ as received in public
16 schools.

17 (e) The youth services centers are declared to be educational
18 ~~institutions~~ programs and students enrolled or attending the youth services
19 centers' educational programs are entitled to all ~~the~~ rights and privileges
20 of other accredited institutions of this state.

21 (f) The educational programs of the Division of Youth Services of the
22 Department of Human Services shall not receive funding directly from the
23 Public School Fund, but may be eligible for reimbursement, from public
24 schools or school districts, for the documented educational cost of students,
25 from those public schools or school districts, receiving services from the
26 Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services educational
27 programs.

28 (g) The Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services
29 shall adopt rules and regulations for the administration of the requirements
30 in subsections (a) through (e) of this section.

31 (h) The Department of Education shall enter into an interagency
32 agreement with the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human
33 Services requiring the Department of Education to monitor the compliance of
34 the various youth service centers with the minimum standards for
35 accreditation and the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, 20
36 U.S.C. § 1400, et seq.

1 (i) The Department of Education shall provide an annual status report
2 on the compliance of the various youth service centers with the requirements
3 of this section and submit the report to the chairs of the House Interim
4 Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education by
5 September 15 of each year.

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