

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2600

4  
5 By: Representative Key

## For An Act To Be Entitled

6  
7  
8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION TO  
9 IMPROVE EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT; AND  
10 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

12  
13 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS  
14 ASSOCIATION TO IMPROVE EDUCATION AND  
15 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT.  
16

17  
18  
19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

20  
21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 5, is amended to add an  
22 additional subchapter to read as follows:

23 6-5-701. Creation of the association - Examination - Annual report -  
24 Tax exemption - Board of directors.

25 (a)(1)(A) There is created a nonprofit legal entity to be known as the  
26 "Arkansas Association To Improve Education And Community Involvement".

27 (B) The association shall exercise its powers through a  
28 board of directors established under subsection (b) of this section and  
29 perform its functions under the plan of operation established by the board  
30 of directors.

31 (C) The purpose of the association is to receive  
32 contributions from individuals and corporations and use those funds to make  
33 improvements to public schools that offer an education to students in grades  
34 kindergarten through twelve (K-12) by providing the following:

35 (i) Funding for improvements to school facilities,  
36 not to include athletic facilities; and



(ii) Funding to increase teachers' salaries.

(2)(A) The association shall come under the immediate supervision of the Director of the Department of Education and shall be subject to the applicable provisions of the education laws of this state.

(B) Meetings or records of the association may be opened to the public upon majority vote of the board of directors of the association.

(3) The association shall be subject to examination and regulation by the State Board of Education.

(4) The board of directors of the association shall submit to the Director of the Department of Education each year, not later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the association's fiscal year, the following:

(A) A financial report in a form approved by the Director of the Department of Education; and

(B) A report of its activities during the preceding fiscal year.

(5) The association shall be exempt from payment of all fees and all taxes levied by this state or any of its subdivisions, except taxes levied on real property.

(b)(1)(A) The board of directors of the association shall consist of not less than five (5) nor more than nine (9) members serving terms as established in the plan of operation.

(B) The members of the board shall be selected by the State Board of Education, subject to the approval of the Director of the Department of Education.

(C) Vacancies on the board shall be filled for the remaining period of the term by a majority vote of the remaining association board members, subject to the approval of the Director of the Department of Education.

(2) In approving selections to the board, the Director of the Department of Education shall consider, among other things, whether all stakeholders in education are fairly represented.

(3) Members of the board may be reimbursed from the assets of the association for expenses incurred by them as members of the board of directors of the association, but members of the board of the association shall not otherwise be compensated by the association for their services.

1  
2 6-5-702. Powers and duties of association.

3 (a) The association may:

4 (1) Receive contributions from individuals and corporations and  
5 use those funds to make improvements to school facilities, not to include  
6 athletic facilities, and teachers' salaries in the state;

7 (2) Enter into contracts as are necessary or proper to carry out  
8 the provisions and purposes of the association as determined by the  
9 association's board of directors;

10 (3) Sue or be sued, including taking any legal actions necessary  
11 or proper to resolve claims or potential claims on behalf of or against the  
12 association;

13 (4) Employ or retain persons as are necessary or appropriate to  
14 handle the administrative and financial transactions of the association and  
15 to perform other functions as become necessary or proper under this chapter;

16 (5) Receive donations and other moneys for the improvement of  
17 education in Arkansas; and

18 (6) Take other necessary or appropriate action to discharge its  
19 duties and obligations under this chapter or to exercise its powers under  
20 this chapter.

21 (b) The association may render assistance and advice to the Director  
22 of the Department of Education, upon his or her request, concerning  
23 improvements to public schools that offer an education to students in grades  
24 kindergarten through twelve (K-12) in the following areas:

25 (A) School facilities, not to include athletic facilities; and

26 (B) Increasing teachers' salaries.

27 (c) The association may join an organization of one (1) or more other  
28 state associations of similar purposes, to further the purposes and  
29 administer the powers and duties of the association.

30 (d)(1) Records shall be kept of all meetings of the board of directors  
31 to discuss the activities of the association in carrying out its powers and  
32 duties under this subchapter.

33 (2) Nothing in this subsection shall limit the duty of the  
34 association to render a report of its activities under this subchapter.