

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: H3/25/03

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2714

5 By: Representative Mahony
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ENSURE ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL
10 OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS; TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS
11 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD AND ADULT EDUCATION
12 STUDY COMMITTEE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A CONTINUUM OF
16 ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
17 ADULTS.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 *SECTION 1. Legislative findings and intent.*

23 *(a) The General Assembly recognizes that adequate educational*
24 *opportunities for adults are critical to the economic and social development*
25 *of the state.*

26 *(b) The General Assembly finds that over four hundred ninety-one*
27 *thousand eight hundred sixty-three (491,863) adults age eighteen (18) or*
28 *older, approximately twenty-five percent (25%) of the adult population in*
29 *Arkansas, lack a high school diploma or have not passed the General*
30 *Educational Development Test, and thus there is a critical need for adult*
31 *education and training services.*

32 *(c) It is the intent of this legislation to ensure that the limited*
33 *funds available for adult education and training services are having the*
34 *greatest possible impact on improving the skills and employment and earnings*
35 *prospects of adults in Arkansas.*
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1 SECTION 2. (a)(1) There is established a committee to be known as the
2 “Arkansas Workforce Investment Board and Adult Education Study Committee”.

3 (b) The committee shall consist of twenty-six (26) members as follows:

4 (1)(A) Thirteen (13) members appointed by the Arkansas Workforce
5 Investment Board.

6 (B) Ten (10) of the members appointed by the Arkansas
7 Workforce Investment Board shall be a representative from a workforce center
8 in each of the ten (10) local workforce investment areas of the state; and

9 (2)(A) Thirteen (13) members appointed by the Adult Education
10 Section of the Department of Workforce Education.

11 (B) Ten (10) of the members appointed by the Adult
12 Education Section of the Department of Workforce Education shall be a
13 representative from an adult education program in each of the ten (10) local
14 workforce investment areas of the state.

15 (c) The appointed committee members shall be residents of the State of
16 Arkansas at the time of appointment and throughout his or her term.

17 (d) If a vacancy occurs in an appointed position, for any reason, the
18 vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

19 (2) The new appointee shall serve for the remainder of the
20 unexpired term.

21 (e) The Arkansas Workforce Investment Board and the Adult Education
22 Section of the Department of Workforce Education shall each name one (1)
23 member to serve as cochairs of the committee.

24 (f)(1) The cochairs of the committee shall call the first
25 organizational meeting within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this
26 act. The committee shall meet at times and places that either of the
27 cochairs deems necessary, but no meetings shall be held outside of the State
28 of Arkansas.

29 (2) A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute
30 a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

31 (3) All action of the committee shall be by a majority vote of
32 the full membership of the committee.

33 (g) The committee shall:

34 (1) Review the programs and services offered by workforce
35 centers and adult education programs and determine if those entities offer
36 duplicative services;

1 (2) Determine the extent to which workforce centers and adult
2 education programs are coordinating services to create a seamless system of
3 education and training opportunities for adults; and

4 (3) Make specific recommendations for reducing unnecessary
5 duplication of services and improving the coordination of services between
6 workforce centers and adult education programs in the form of a written
7 report to the Governor, the House Interim Committee on Education, and the
8 Senate Interim Committee on Education on or before September 1, 2004, and an
9 oral report to the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate
10 Interim Committee on Education as directed by the chairs the legislative
11 committees.

12 (h)(1) The Adult Education Section of the Department of Workforce
13 Education and Arkansas Workforce Investment Board shall provide staff and
14 meeting space to the committee.

15 (2)(A) Members of the committee shall serve without pay, except
16 members who receive compensation incidental to his or her regular employment.

17 (B) Members of the committee may receive expense
18 reimbursement in accordance with Arkansas Code § 25-16-902, to be paid by the
19 Adult Education Section of the Department of Workforce Education or Arkansas
20 Workforce Investment Board to the entities respective appointees and to the
21 extent money is available.

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23 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
24 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Arkansas Workforce
25 Investment Board and Adult Education Study Committee needs to meet and
26 organize itself as soon as possible to begin the work of the committee.
27 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately
28 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall
29 become effective on:

30 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

31 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the
32 expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill;
33 or

34 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden,
35 the date the last house overrides the veto.

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/s/ Mahony