1 State of Arkansas

A Bill

2 84th General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 2003   HOUSE BILL 2878

4

5 By: Representative Hardwick

6

7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9   AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER SCHOOL LAW; AND FOR

10   OTHER PURPOSES.

11

Subtitle

13   AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER SCHOOL LAW.

14

15

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

17

18   SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-23-304 is amended to read as follows:

19   6-23-304. Requirements - Preference for certain districts.

20   (a) The State Board of Education may approve or deny an application

21 based on criteria adopted by the state board, which shall include criteria

22 relating to improving student performance and encouraging innovative programs

23 and written findings or statements received by the board from any public

24 school district likely to be affected by the charter school.

25   (b) The state board shall give preference in approving an application

26 for a charter school to be located in any public school district:

27   (1) Where the percentage of students who qualify for free or

28 reduced price lunches is above the average for the state; or

29   (2) Where the percentage of students not reading at grade level

30 is above the average for the state.

31   (c) The state board may grant no more than a total of twelve (12)

32 charters for open-enrollment charter schools, and no more than three (3) of

33 such charters may be granted in any single congressional district in the

34 state.

35   (d)(1) No private or parochial elementary or secondary school shall be

36 eligible for open-enrollment charter school status.

1   (2)(c)   No open-enrollment charter school shall be located in a school
2   district with an enrollment of fewer than five hundred (500) students at the
3   time that the state board initially approves the charter.
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36