

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: H4/3/03
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2882

5 By: Representative Cleveland
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 TO CREATE THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MATH
10 EXCELLENCE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO CREATE THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON
13 MATH EXCELLENCE.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. (a) There is created a commission to be known as the
20 “Advisory Commission on Math Excellence”.

21 (b) The commission shall consist of six (6) members as follows:

22 (1) Two (2) members of the business community appointed by the
23 Governor;

24 (2) Two (2) members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of
25 the Senate, one (1) involved in teaching math in higher education and one (1)
26 involved in vocational technical teaching; and

27 (3) Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the House, one
28 (1) involved in high school math teaching, and one (1) a K-12 curriculum
29 director.

30 (c) The Governor shall name one (1) of the commission’s members to
31 serve as chair of the commission.

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

34 (e)(1) The commission shall meet upon call of the chair of the
35 commission.

36 (2) Three (3) members of the commission shall constitute a



1 quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

2 (3) A quorum is required for action of the commission.

3 (4) The commission will meet at times that will not conflict
4 with classroom teaching.

5 (f)(1) The commission shall review various curricula for math
6 education of students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) and adopt
7 standards for grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) math for the State of
8 Arkansas subject to approval of the Department of Education and the State
9 Board of Education. The curriculum frameworks for all math courses in grades
10 K-12 shall be aligned with the new math standards. The State Department of
11 Education will develop curriculum frameworks for all math courses and each
12 school shall develop a curriculum that is aligned with the frameworks.
13 Current frameworks shall be refined and revised to be more grade level
14 specific. Teachers of math will be utilized in the refinement process.

15 (2) The commission shall advise the Department of Education and
16 the State Board of Education on methods to improve the consistency and
17 continuity of math education in the State of Arkansas to the actual
18 instruction in classrooms with state standards and curriculum frameworks
19 based on adopted standards.

20 (3) Each year the school will determine if each student is at
21 grade level at the end of the school year. This determination will be based
22 on standardized tests, end of course exams, and grades. If a student is
23 below grade level, the school will provide summer instruction in math for the
24 purpose of remediation. After summer instruction if the student is still
25 below grade level remediation will take place during the next academic year
26 until grade level is reached. Appropriate professional development will be
27 provided math teachers to assist them in working with students. Professional
28 development will be provided for all math teachers in each school when math
29 scores on state tests are below the state average.

30 (4) After completion of grade eight (8), each student will be
31 evaluated for placement in the appropriate math track. The commission will
32 recommend the appropriate structure for these tracks. If a student does not
33 meet standards at the end of grade twelve (12), one (1) additional year of
34 study will be required to bring the student to an acceptable level of
35 performance in math.

36 (5) The Department of Education and schools will work together

1 to develop research which will assist in improving the teaching of math in
2 Arkansas. Institutions of higher education will be involved in the research
3 process when it is appropriate.

4 (g) If the Department of Education fails to adopt the standards
5 recommended by the commission, the Department of Education shall state in
6 writing all the department's and the board's objection to the standards and
7 reasons for not adopting the standards.

8 (h) The Department of Education shall provide office space and staff
9 assistance to the Advisory Commission on Math Excellence.

10 (i)(1) The members of the Advisory Commission on Math Excellence shall
11 serve without pay.

12 (2) All members of the commission may receive expense
13 reimbursement in accordance with Arkansas Code § 25-16-902, to be paid by the
14 Department of Education.

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16 /s/ Cleveland
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