

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: S3/27/03

A Bill

SENATE BILL 707

5 By: Senators Wooldridge, Bisbee, Argue, Bryles
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT ANY PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
10 THAT HAS COMMITTED REPORTING FRAUD IN THE
11 ACCREDITATION OR ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS SHALL NOT
12 BE ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY STATEWIDE
13 ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE ARKANSAS
14 ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
15

Subtitle

16
17 TO REQUIRE THAT A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
18 COMMITTING REPORTING FRAUD IN THE
19 ACCREDITATION OR ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS
20 IS NOT ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN
21 ACTIVITIES ADMINISTERED BY THE ARKANSAS
22 ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION.
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24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. (a)(1) The Department of Education shall report to the
28 Arkansas Activities Association any school district that the department
29 determines has committed fraud with respect to any information required for
30 accreditation or any accountability measures, and that school district shall
31 not be eligible to participate in any statewide activities regulated by the
32 Arkansas Activities Association.

33 (2) No school district may be a member of the Arkansas
34 Activities Association unless the school district is accredited by the
35 Department of Education.

36 (b)(1) Any individual making a charge of fraud relating to



1 accreditation or accountability shall do so by providing the Department of
2 Education with a signed, written statement setting forth the allegation.

3 (2) Any allegation reported by the Department of Education shall
4 be filed by the unit supervisor of Standards Assurance who shall do so by a
5 signed, written statement setting forth the allegation.

6 (c)(1) Any allegation received by the Department of Education in
7 accordance with subsection (b), shall be reviewed by the Director of the
8 Department of Education or his designee.

9 (2)(A) If the director or designee determines the charges to be
10 sufficient, Department of Education staff shall be appointed to conduct an
11 investigation.

12 (B) The investigation shall be conducted pursuant to rules
13 and regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education.

14 (C) The staff investigating the allegation shall provide a
15 written copy of the results of the investigation to the Director of the
16 Department of Education.

17 (D) Upon the director's review and approval, the findings
18 will be forwarded to the executive director of the Arkansas Activities
19 Association.

20 (d) The Arkansas Activities Association may take action based on the
21 investigative reports.

22 (e) The Department of Education shall develop rules and regulations as
23 necessary to promulgate this act.

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25 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
26 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that school districts must comply
27 with the standards of accreditation; that school districts making fraudulent
28 reports should have be reprimanded in some manner and that a procedure needs
29 to be in place prior to the beginning of the next school year; and that this
30 act is immediately necessary because rules and regulations must be
31 implemented prior to the beginning of the 2003-2004 school year. Therefore,
32 an emergency is declared to exist and this act being necessary for the
33 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective
34 on July 1, 2004.

35 /s/ Wooldridge
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