

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

SENATE BILL 865

4
5 By: Senator Bisbee
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF
10 THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT
11 OF HUMAN SERVICES COMPLY WITH THE STANDARDS OF
12 ACCREDITATION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF THE
13 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE DIVISION OF YOUTH
14 SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES; AND
15 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
16

Subtitle

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18 TO REQUIRE THAT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF
19 THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES COMPLY
20 WITH THE STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION, AND
21 TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUNDING OF THE
22 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS OF THE DIVISION OF
23 YOUTH SERVICES.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-28-205 is amended to read as follows:
29 9-28-205. Youth services centers.

30 (a) The physical facilities and programs at each of the youth services
31 centers, whether state owned or contracted, shall be designed and developed
32 to be particularly suitable for the custody, care, education, and
33 rehabilitation of youths of particular classifications.

34 (b) In classifying and committing youths to the various centers and
35 facilities, the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human
36 Services shall take into consideration a youth's age, sex, physical



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1 condition, mental attitude and capacity, prognosis for rehabilitation, the
 2 seriousness of the committing offense, and such other criteria as the
 3 division shall determine.

4 (c) The Director of the Division of Youth Services shall prepare or
 5 cause to be prepared courses of study, including regular education, ~~or~~
 6 ~~special courses in~~ education, and vocational skills courses as required by
 7 the Department of Education minimum standards for accreditation for
 8 elementary and secondary public schools suited to the age and capacity of the
 9 youths, and shall employ certified teachers to teach the courses.

10 (d) The courses of study taught shall conform to the established
 11 guidelines for alternative learning environments ~~or~~ and the minimum standards
 12 prescribed for the public schools of the state, and the students shall
 13 receive from Arkansas elementary and secondary public schools the same credit
 14 for courses completed ~~in the alternative learning environment or the same~~
 15 ~~credit for completing courses as students receive~~ as received in public
 16 schools.

17 (e) The youth services centers are declared to be educational
 18 ~~institutions~~ programs and students enrolled or attending the youth services
 19 centers' educational programs are entitled to all ~~the~~ rights and privileges
 20 of other accredited institutions of this state.

21 (f) The educational programs of the Division of Youth Services of the
 22 Department of Human Services shall not receive funding directly from the
 23 Public School Fund, but may be eligible for reimbursement, from public
 24 schools or school districts, for the documented educational cost of students,
 25 from those public schools or school districts, receiving services from the
 26 Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services educational
 27 programs.

28 (g) The Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human Services
 29 shall adopt rules and regulations for the administration of the requirements
 30 in subsections (a) through (e) of this section.

31 (h) The Department of Education shall enter into an interagency
 32 agreement with the Division of Youth Services of the Department of Human
 33 Services requiring the Department of Education to monitor the compliance of
 34 the various youth service centers with the minimum standards for
 35 accreditation and the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, 20
 36 U.S.C. § 1400, et seq.

1 (i) The Department of Education shall provide an annual status report
2 on the compliance of the various youth service centers with the requirements
3 of this section and submit the report to the chairs of the House Interim
4 Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education by
5 September 15 of each year.

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