

1 State of Arkansas

Call Item 4

2 84th General Assembly

# A Bill

3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2003

HOUSE BILL 1010

4  
5 By: Representatives Dickinson, P. Bookout, Chesterfield, Cleveland, Dangeau, Fite, J. Johnson, Jackson,  
6 Moore, Seawel, Thomas, Weaver, White

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 TO CREATE THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MATH  
11 EXCELLENCE AND IMPROVE MATH EDUCATION IN  
12 ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

15 TO CREATE THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON  
16 MATH EXCELLENCE AND IMPROVE MATH  
17 EDUCATION IN ARKANSAS.

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19  
20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 SECTION 1. (a) There is created a commission to be known as the  
23 "Advisory Commission on Math Excellence".

24 (b) The commission shall consist of nine (9) members as follows:

25 (1) Three (3) members to be appointed by the Governor, as  
26 follows:

27 (A) Two (2) members from the business community; and

28 (B) One (1) member who is a teacher of elementary math;

29 (2) Three (3) members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of  
30 the Senate, as follows:

31 (A) One (1) member who is involved in teaching math in  
32 higher education;

33 (B) One (1) member who is involved in vocational technical  
34 teaching; and

35 (C) One (1) member who is a teacher of middle school math;  
36 and



1           (3) Three (3) members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
2 Representatives, as follows:

3           (A) One (1) member who is involved in high school math  
4 teaching; and

5           (B) Two (2) members who are grades kindergarten through  
6 twelve (K-12) math curriculum specialists.

7           (c) The Governor shall name one (1) of the commission's members to  
8 serve as chair of the commission.

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

11           (e)(1) The commission shall meet upon call of the chair of the  
12 commission.

13           (2) Five (5) members of the commission shall constitute a quorum  
14 for the purpose of transacting business.

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

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

18           (f) The commission shall:

19           (1) Review various curricula for math education of students in  
20 grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12);

21           (2) Review and research state and national standards and  
22 provided commentary; and

23           (3) The commission shall make recommendations to the Department  
24 of Education and the State Board of Education on methods to improve the  
25 consistency and continuity of math education in the State of Arkansas and  
26 methods to ensure that the actual instruction in classrooms is aligned with  
27 state standards and curriculum frameworks.

28           (g) If the Department of Education fails to adopt the recommendations  
29 of the commission, the Department of Education shall state in writing all of  
30 the department's and the board's objections to the recommendations and the  
31 reasons for not adopting the recommendations.

32           (h) The Department of Education shall provide meeting space and staff  
33 assistance to the Advisory Commission on Math Excellence.

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

36           (2) All members of the commission may receive expense

1 reimbursement in accordance with Arkansas Code § 25-16-902, to be paid by the  
2 Department of Education as funds are available.

3 (j) This section shall expire on December 31, 2010.  
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5 SECTION 2. (a)(1) The State Board of Education shall ensure that the  
6 curriculum frameworks for all math courses in grades kindergarten through  
7 twelve (K-12) are aligned according to standards.

8 (2) Current math curriculum frameworks shall be reviewed and  
9 revised as necessary to ensure a consistent high quality math curriculum for  
10 all students.

11 (3) The State Board of Education and the Department of Education  
12 shall work with math teachers when reviewing and revising the math curriculum  
13 frameworks.

14 (b) The math curriculum used by every school in the state shall be  
15 aligned with the curriculum frameworks adopted by the State Board of  
16 Education.

17 (c)(1) Any student failing to demonstrate a proficient level of  
18 achievement on the math portion of the state criterion-referenced tests shall  
19 participate in an individual academic improvement plan specifically designed  
20 by the math department of the school district to assist the student in  
21 achieving a level of proficiency in math.

22 (2) Point-in-time intervention and remediation, including summer  
23 school, shall be provided for students with an academic improvement plan.

24 (3) Appropriate professional development shall be provided for  
25 math teachers to assist the teachers in working with students with academic  
26 improvement plans.

27 (d) After completion of grade eight (8), each student who is not  
28 proficient in math shall be provided information on appropriate courses to  
29 meet graduation requirements and postsecondary opportunities.

30 (e) The Department of Education and schools will work together to  
31 develop research which will assist in improving the teaching of math in  
32 Arkansas. Institutions of higher education will be involved in the research  
33 process when it is appropriate.  
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35 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
36 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Arkansas Supreme Court in

Lake View School District No. 25 v. Huckabee, 351 Ark. 31 (2002) declared the current system of education to be unconstitutional because it is both inequitable and inadequate; and the Arkansas Supreme Court set forth the test for a constitutional system to be one in which the State has an “absolute duty” to provide an “equal opportunity to an adequate education”; the Arkansas Supreme Court instructed the General Assembly to undertake actions as necessary to provide an opportunity for an adequate and equitable education for the children of Arkansas; and the provisions of this bill are necessary steps toward accomplishing that goal. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

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

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

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