

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2003
4
5 By: Representatives Mahony, *Lendall*
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As Engrossed: H1/23/04
A Bill

Call Item 3

HOUSE BILL 1141

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS
10 CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL NURSES; AND FOR OTHER
11 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS OF THE
15 ARKANSAS CODE RELATING TO SCHOOL NURSES.

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

20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-704 entitled "School nurse.
21 [Contingent expiration date.]" is repealed.

22 ~~6-18-704. School nurse. [Contingent expiration date.]~~

23 ~~(a) In order to improve the health status and educational achievement~~
24 ~~of the children of this state, the General Assembly hereby determines that an~~
25 ~~appropriate school nurse to student ratio is needed to effectively meet the~~
26 ~~health care needs of these children.~~

27 ~~(b) Beginning with the 1994-95 school year, all school districts should~~
28 ~~have no less than one (1) school nurse per one thousand (1,000) students.~~

29 ~~(c) In districts having a high concentration of children with disabling~~
30 ~~conditions as determined by the State Board of Education, the ratio of school~~
31 ~~nurses to students should be one (1) to four hundred (400) in those schools~~
32 ~~so designated.~~

33 ~~(d) In a district which provides a center for profoundly disabled~~
34 ~~students, the ratio should be one (1) school nurse per one hundred twenty-~~
35 ~~five (125) students at that center.~~

36 ~~(e) School nurses may be employed or provided by contract or agreement with~~



1 ~~other agencies or individuals provided that the prescribed ratio and~~
2 ~~equivalency are maintained. Provided, however, no school nurse may be~~
3 ~~employed by, or contract with, any public secondary or elementary school of~~
4 ~~this state except with the prior approval of the local school board.~~

5 ~~(f) For purposes of this section, a "school nurse" shall mean the~~
6 ~~equivalent of a licensed nurse engaging in school nursing activities.~~

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8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-704 entitled "School nurse.
9 [Contingent effective date.]" is repealed.

10 ~~6-18-704. School nurse. [Contingent effective date.]~~

11 ~~(a) In order to improve the health status and educational achievement~~
12 ~~of the children of this state, the General Assembly hereby determines that an~~
13 ~~appropriate school nurse to student ratio is essential to effectively meet~~
14 ~~the health care needs of these children.~~

15 ~~(b) Beginning with the 1998-1999 school year, all school districts~~
16 ~~shall have no less than the full-time equivalent of one (1) school nurse per~~
17 ~~one thousand (1,000) students or the proportionate ratio thereof.~~

18 ~~(c) School nurses may be employed or provided by contract or agreement~~
19 ~~with other agencies or individuals provided that the prescribed ratio and~~
20 ~~equivalency are maintained. Provided, however, no school nurse may be~~
21 ~~employed by, or contract with, any public secondary or elementary school of~~
22 ~~this state except with the prior approval of the local school board.~~

23 ~~(d) For purposes of this section, a "school nurse" shall mean a~~
24 ~~licensed nurse engaging in school nursing activities.~~

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26 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 7, is amended
27 to add the following new section.

28 6-18-706. School nurse.

29 (a) In order to improve the health status and educational achievement
30 of the children of this state, the General Assembly hereby determines that an
31 appropriate school nurse-to-student ratio is essential to effectively meet
32 the health care needs of these children.

33 (b) Beginning with the 2004-2005 school year, all school districts
34 shall have no less than the full-time equivalent of one (1) school nurse per
35 seven hundred and fifty (750) students or the proportionate ratio thereof.

36 (c) School nurses may be employed or provided by contract or agreement

1 with other agencies or individuals provided that the prescribed ratio and
2 equivalency are maintained. Provided, however, no school nurse may be
3 employed by, or contract with, any public secondary or elementary school of
4 this state except with the prior approval of the local school board.

5 (d) In districts having a high concentration of children with
6 disabling conditions as determined by the State Board of Education, the ratio
7 of school nurses to students should be one (1) to four hundred (400) in those
8 schools so designated.

9 (e) In a district which provides a center for profoundly disabled
10 students, the ratio should be one (1) school nurse per one hundred twenty-
11 five (125) students at that center.

12 (f) For purposes of this section, a "school nurse" shall mean a
13 licensed nurse engaging in school nursing activities.

14 (g)(1) The provisions of this section shall only be effective upon the
15 availability of state funds.

16 (2) Available funds shall be distributed to school districts
17 based on the previous year's three-quarter average daily membership.

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19 /s/ Mahony, et al
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