

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2003
4
5 By: Senators Madison, Luker, Bryles
6
7

Call Item 4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 71

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE RESIDENTS OF A PORTION OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PETITION FOR A CHANGE IN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ADJOINING SCHOOL DISTRICT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE RESIDENTS OF A PORTION OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PETITION FOR A CHANGE IN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE ADJOINING SCHOOL DISTRICT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 13, Subchapter 12 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-13-1211. Boundary change by the State Board of Education.

(a)(1) The State Board of Education shall consider a petition from the residents of an area within a school district who seek an adjustment or change of boundary lines between the school district in which the area is located and a school district that adjoins the area.

(2) The petition shall:

(A) Be signed by at least five (5) adult residents of the area requested to be moved to a different school district;

(B) Include a description of the boundaries of the area to be moved to a different school district; and



1 (C) Include a statement of the reasons that it is in the
2 best interest of the students of the area for the boundaries to be adjusted.

3 (3) The petition shall be accompanied by:

4 (A) Proof that the petitioners have caused public notice
5 to be published in a local newspaper of general circulation in each affected
6 school district no fewer than once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks; and

7 (B) Proof that the petitioners have provided a copy of the
8 public notice to the boards of directors of the affected school districts by
9 registered mail or by certified mail with return receipt requested.

10 (4) The petition shall be filed with the state board no later
11 than March 1 in any calendar year.

12 (b) The petition shall be presented for hearing before the state board
13 at the first regularly scheduled meeting occurring after April 1 of the year
14 in which the petition was filed.

15 (c)(1) If the state board determines that the proposed change in
16 boundaries is in the best interest of the students of the area, the state
17 board may, by approval of a majority of the members of a quorum present of
18 the state board, issue an order changing or adjusting the boundary lines
19 between the adjoining districts.

20 (2) The state board shall not order any change in school
21 district boundaries which hampers, delays, or in any manner negatively
22 affects the desegregation efforts of the public school districts in the State
23 of Arkansas.

24 (d) A change or adjustment in boundary lines approved under this
25 section shall be effective on July 1 of the year in which the petition was
26 filed.

27 (e)(1) Upon an order from the state board to change or adjust boundary
28 lines, the state board shall file the order with the county clerk in each
29 county in which every affected school district lies.

30 (2) The county clerk shall make a permanent record of the order,
31 and thereafter the boundaries so established shall be the boundaries of the
32 affected districts until changes are made according to the provisions of law.

33 (f) Upon an order from the state board to change or adjust boundary
34 lines, it shall be the duty of the Department of Education to make changes in
35 the maps of the school districts of the county to show the changes of
36 boundaries.