

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: H3/8/17

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1459

5 By: Representative C. Douglas
6 *By: Senator B. Johnson*
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY IN THE AWARDING OF
10 COURSE CREDITS; TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT TO
11 DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A PLAN THAT ENABLES A STUDENT
12 TO EARN COURSE CREDITS BY DEMONSTRATING SUBJECT
13 MATTER COMPETENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 TO PROVIDE FLEXIBILITY IN THE AWARDING OF
17 COURSE CREDITS; AND TO ALLOW A PUBLIC
18 SCHOOL DISTRICT TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT
19 A PLAN THAT ENABLES A STUDENT TO EARN
20 COURSE CREDITS BY DEMONSTRATING SUBJECT
21 MATTER COMPETENCY.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 2, is amended
28 to add an additional section to read as follows:

29 6-15-216. Flexibility in awarding course credit.

30 (a)(1) Beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, a public school
31 district may submit a plan for approval to the Department of Education to
32 award units of high school course credit based on a demonstration of subject
33 matter competency instead of, or in combination with, completing hours of
34 classroom instruction.

35 (2) The plan shall include a method for recording demonstrated
36 subject matter competency on high school transcripts.



1 (b) Upon approval, a public school district shall not be in violation
2 of any requirement in the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public
3 Schools and School Districts that units of credit be awarded for a minimum
4 number of clock hours if the public school district awards units of credit
5 based on a demonstration of subject matter competency instead of, or in
6 combination with, completing hours of classroom instruction if the awarding
7 of credit is in compliance with the public school district's approved plan.

8 (c) The department may promulgate rules to implement this section,
9 including without limitation guidelines to assist public school districts in
10 transitioning to awarding credits as provided under this section.

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12 */s/C. Douglas*
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