

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

As Engrossed: H3/8/17

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1648

5 By: Representative C. Douglas  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
9 CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY; AND FOR  
10 OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

14 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
15 CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY.  
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17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(e), concerning on-site standards  
21 for accreditation reviews, is amended to read as follows:

22 (e)(1) The department shall conduct ~~an on-campus~~ a Standards for  
23 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts review for each  
24 public school or public school district in the state no less than one (1)  
25 time every four (4) years;

26 (A) Identified as being at a high risk of failing to meet  
27 the standards; or

28 (B) Whenever the department or state board deems  
29 necessary.

30 ~~(2) The department may visit any school campus for an on-campus~~  
31 ~~Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts~~  
32 ~~review at other additional times as determined necessary by the Commissioner~~  
33 ~~of Education or the state board~~ The review under subdivision (e)(1) of this  
34 section may be conducted onsite at the public school or public school  
35 district.  
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1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(d), concerning onsite standards  
2 for accreditation reviews, is amended to read as follows:

3 (d)(1) ~~An onsite~~ The department shall conduct a review of each  
4 school's compliance ~~shall be made at least every two (2) years or more~~  
5 ~~frequently~~ if the department has reason to believe that the school district  
6 or any school ~~therein~~ within the public school district has fallen below  
7 standards for accreditation.

8 (2) The review under subdivision (d)(1) of this section may be  
9 conducted onsite at the public school or public school district.

10  
11 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2006(b) and (c), concerning  
12 publication of annual school district progress reports, is amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 (b)(1) A school district board of directors shall publish annually ~~in~~  
15 ~~the local newspaper~~ on its website the school performance report required by  
16 § 6-15-1402 ~~and report in writing to the State Board of Education~~ by October  
17 15 of each year the following information on the prior school year or the  
18 latest information available:

19 ~~(1)(A)~~ (A) By grade level, economic status, and ethnicity, the  
20 number and percentage of all students in kindergarten through grade twelve  
21 (K-12) performing at each category level on the state-mandated examinations,  
22 the percentile rankings by school and grade level on any other assessments as  
23 required by the state board, the number of students taking advanced placement  
24 courses or courses offered under the International Baccalaureate Diploma  
25 Programme, the number taking the advanced placement exams, and the percent of  
26 students making a 3, 4, or 5 on advanced placement exams;

27 ~~(2)(B)~~ (B) By grade level, the number and percentage of all  
28 students retained in grades one through eight (1-8);

29 ~~(3)(C)~~ (C) The graduation rate, grade inflation rate, drop-out  
30 rate for grades nine through twelve (9-12), and college remediation rate;

31 ~~(4)(D)~~ (D) The number of students transferring pursuant to the  
32 unsafe school provision of § 6-15-432; and

33 ~~(5)(E)~~ (E) The number of students transferring pursuant to the  
34 Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, § 6-18-227.

35 (2) The school performance report shall be easily identifiable  
36 on the website.

1                   (3) The public school district may also publish the school  
2 performance report in the local newspaper.

3           (c) A printed copy of the school performance report required by § 6-  
4 15-1402 shall be made available upon request.

5           (d) This section shall apply to the extent that it is not in violation  
6 of applicable state or federal law.

7  
8           SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107(c)(1)(C), concerning performance-  
9 based funding, is repealed.

10                   ~~(C) Needs improvement focus schools and needs improvement~~  
11 ~~priority schools as defined in rules of the state board are ineligible to~~  
12 ~~receive rewards under this section.~~

13  
14           SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107(c)(3) and (4), concerning the  
15 Arkansas School Recognition Program, are repealed.

16                   ~~(3) Each school that receives performance-based funding shall~~  
17 ~~submit to the department a proposal for its spending of the performance-based~~  
18 ~~funding.~~

19                   ~~(4) The department shall:~~

20                           ~~(A) Review each proposal received under this section; and~~

21                           ~~(B) Approve spending of performance-based funding for~~  
22 ~~academic expenses only as provided under subsection (e) of this section.~~

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24           SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107(f), concerning the Arkansas  
25 School Recognition Program, is amended to read as follows:

26           (f) School recognition awards are exempt from §§ 6-17-119 and 6-20-  
27 412.

28           (g) The General Assembly shall appropriate and fund sufficient funds  
29 to implement this section.

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31                                   /s/C. Douglas  
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