

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 29

By: Senator Hickey

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE  
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS; TO SUPPLEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS WITH  
EXCESS LOTTERY PROCEEDS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS ACADEMIC  
CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS; TO  
SUPPLEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS WITH EXCESS  
LOTTERY PROCEEDS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(e)(2)(B), concerning excess  
funding, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) The department shall return to the Office of the  
Arkansas Lottery the excess funding, if any, for scholarship awards or  
scholarship award supplements the department received under § 23-115-801.

(ii) The office shall deposit any funds received  
from the department under this subdivision (e)(2)(B) into a trust account  
established under § 23-115-801(b).

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212(g), concerning scholarship  
awards, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) It ~~Except as provided in subdivision (g)(2) of this section, it~~  
is the intent of the General Assembly that in determining award amounts under  
this subchapter the General Assembly will consider whether sufficient funds  
will be available to pay for scholarship awards through the anticipated



1 completion of the degree or certificate a recipient is seeking.

2 (2) A scholarship award supplement under subdivision (k)(1) of  
 3 this section shall be only for the academic year for which it is awarded.

4  
 5 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-85-212, concerning Arkansas Academic  
 6 Challenge Scholarship award amounts, is amended to add an additional  
 7 subsection to read as follows:

8 (k)(1) For an academic year, the following shall be used to supplement  
 9 the scholarship award amounts under subsection (e) of this section:

10 (A) Excess funding returned to the office under  
 11 subdivision (e)(2)(B)(i) of this section from the previous academic year; and

12 (B) Net proceeds remaining from the previous academic year  
 13 after the office:

14 (i) Transfers the funds requested by the department  
 15 under § 23-115-801(c)(2); and

16 (ii) Deposits the amount necessary to maintain the  
 17 Scholarship Shortfall Reserve Trust Account under § 23-115-802 in an amount  
 18 equal to twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000).

19 (2) A scholarship award supplement shall not be awarded for an  
 20 academic year if:

21 (A) No funds are available under subdivision (k)(1) of  
 22 this section; or

23 (B) The Department of Higher Education received a loan  
 24 from the Scholarship Shortfall Reserve Trust Account under § 23-115-802 for  
 25 the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program – Part 2 for the previous  
 26 academic year.

27  
 28 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 23-115-802(c), concerning the Scholarship  
 29 Shortfall Reserve Trust Account, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2) of this section, If if  
 31 net proceeds in any year are not sufficient to meet the amount allocated for  
 32 higher education scholarships, the account may be drawn upon to meet the  
 33 deficiency.

34 (2) The account shall not be drawn upon to fund scholarship  
 35 award supplements under § 6-85-212(k).