

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 553

5 By: Senators Bond, L. Chesterfield, Elliott
6 By: Representatives A. Collins, Blake, McCullough
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS UNDER THE
10 AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; TO AMEND
11 THE LAW TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT UNDER THE
12 AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO BE
13 RETURNED TO LOCAL CONTROL UNDER CERTAIN
14 CIRCUMSTANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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18 TO AMEND THE LAW TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL
19 DISTRICT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE
20 BOARD OF EDUCATION TO BE RETURNED TO
21 LOCAL CONTROL UNDER CERTAIN
22 CIRCUMSTANCES.
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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 § 6-15-2917(c), concerning the consequences
28 of a public school district failing to meet the criteria to exit Level 5 –
29 Intensive support after five (5) years, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) If the public school district has not demonstrated to the state
31 board and the Department of Education that the public school district meets
32 the criteria to exit Level 5 – Intensive support within five (5) years of the
33 assumption of authority, the state board ~~shall~~ may annex, consolidate, or
34 reconstitute the public school district under § 6-13-1401 et seq. and this
35 subchapter.

36 (2) However, a public school district shall be returned to local



1 control if, after five (5) years of the assumption of authority by the state
2 board under this section, the public school district has met any of the
3 following criteria:

4 (A) The public school district has demonstrated
5 substantial improvement of the issues that caused the classification of the
6 public school district as being in need of Level 5 – Intensive support;

7 (B) The state board determines that:

8 (i) The public school district has adopted a plan to
9 correct the issue or issues that caused the classification of the public
10 school district as being in need of Level 5 – Intensive support; and

11 (ii) All public schools within the public school
12 district that is classified as being in need of Level 5 – Intensive support
13 are making demonstrable progress towards the removal of the Level 5 -
14 Intensive support classification; or

15 (C) The number of public schools that are classified as in
16 need of Level 5 – Intensive support within a public school district has
17 increased while under the authority of the state board.

18 ~~(2)~~(3) The state board shall may promulgate rules to establish
19 regarding the criteria by which a public school district may exit Level 5 –
20 Intensive support as established under subdivision (c)(2) of this section.

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