

2 State of Arkansas
3 94th General Assembly
4 Second Extraordinary Session, 2023

A Bill

TNL/TNL
SENATE BILL

5
6 By: Senator B. King

7 Filed with: Arkansas Legislative Council
8 pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

9 For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE COMMUNITY SERVICE DIPLOMA
11 REQUIREMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

12 Subtitle

13 TO REPEAL THE COMMUNITY SERVICE DIPLOMA
14 REQUIREMENT.

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

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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 19, is
22 repealed.

23 ~~Subchapter 19 — Community Service Diploma Requirement~~

24
25 ~~6-16-1901. Community service diploma requirement.~~

26 ~~(a) Beginning with the graduating class of 2026-2027, a public high~~
27 ~~school student shall complete a minimum of seventy five (75) clock hours of~~
28 ~~documented community service in grades nine through twelve (9-12), as~~
29 ~~certified by the service agency or organization with which the public school~~
30 ~~student volunteers, in order to graduate.~~

31 ~~(b) The community service required under subsection (a) of this~~
32 ~~section shall:~~

33 ~~(1) Be in programs or activities, either in Arkansas or outside~~
34 ~~of Arkansas, that meet the requirements established by the State Board of~~
35 ~~Education and each public school district board of directors; and~~

36 ~~(2) Include preparation, action, and reflection components.~~

~~(c)(1) Students transferring into a public school district after grade nine (9) or students graduating early may receive a diploma provided that the minimum requirement for each year they attend the public school district is met.~~

~~(2) The minimum number of community service hours for each grade level shall be:~~

~~(A) Fifteen (15) hours for students in grade nine (9);~~

~~(B) Twenty (20) hours for students in grade ten (10);~~

~~(C) Twenty (20) hours for students in grade eleven (11);~~

~~and~~

~~(D) Twenty (20) hours for students in grade twelve (12).~~

~~6-16-1902. Waivers — Rules.~~

~~(a)(1) A public school district board of directors may grant a waiver of this requirement for extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis.~~

~~(2) Extenuating circumstances permitted under subdivision (a)(1) of this section may include without limitation:~~

~~(A) A major illness associated with a student or a family member of a student;~~

~~(B) Student homelessness or housing insecurity; and~~

~~(C) Notice to the public school district board of directors if the student is a major contributor to family income.~~

~~(b) The State Board of Education may promulgate rules necessary for the implementation of this subchapter.~~

Referred by Senator B. King

Prepared by: TNL/TNL

1 Prepared by: TNL/TNL

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