

1 State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/13/17 H3/17/17*

2 91st General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2017

HOUSE BILL 1740

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5 By: Representative Lowery

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENROLLMENT OR RE-ENROLLMENT OF

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A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL; AND FOR

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OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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CONCERNING THE ENROLLMENT OR RE-

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ENROLLMENT OF A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT IN

16

A PUBLIC SCHOOL.

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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 § 6-15-504 is amended to read as follows:

22 6-15-504. Enrollment or ~~reenrollment~~ re-enrollment in local schools.

23 (a) ~~(1) Each local school district may assess any home-schooled student~~
24 ~~who enrolls or reenrolls in the school district in order to determine proper~~
25 ~~educational placement.~~

26 ~~(2) A local school district that chooses to assess a home-~~
27 ~~schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in the school district may use the~~
28 ~~same assessment that the school district uses when a student who has attended~~
29 ~~another public school or private school enrolls or reenrolls.~~ A local public
30 school district:

31 (1) Shall afford a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-
32 enrolls in a public school the same rights and privileges enjoyed by other
33 public school students; and

34 (2) Shall not deny a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-
35 enrolls in a public school any of the following solely on the basis of having
36 attended a home school:



1 (A) Award of course credits earned in the home school;

2 (B) Placement in the proper grade level and promotion to
3 the next grade level;

4 (C) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section,
5 a diploma or graduation;

6 (D) Participation in any academic or extracurricular
7 activity;

8 (E) Membership in school-sponsored clubs, associations, or
9 organizations; or

10 (F) Scholarships.

11 (b) To enroll or re-enroll in a public school, a home-schooled student
12 shall submit to the public school:

13 (1) A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades
14 from the home school; and

15 (2) A portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's
16 academic progress, including without limitation:

17 (A) Curricula used in the home school;

18 (B) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled
19 student; and

20 (C) Other indicators of the home-schooled student's
21 academic progress.

22 (c) A public school shall place a home-schooled student who enrolls or
23 re-enrolls in the public school at a grade level and academic course level
24 equivalent to or higher than the home-schooled student's grade level and
25 academic course level in the home school:

26 (1) As indicated by the home-schooled student's:

27 (A) Transcript listing all courses taken and semester
28 grades from the home school;

29 (B) Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a
30 nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment taken in the past year; and

31 (C) Portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's
32 academic progress, including without limitation:

33 (i) Curricula used in the home school;

34 (ii) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-
35 schooled student; and

36 (iii) Other indicators of the home-schooled

1 student's academic progress; or

2 (2) By mutual agreement between the public school and the home-
3 schooled student's parent or legal guardian.

4 (d) If the student is unable to provide a nationally recognized norm-
5 referenced test score the school shall:

6 (1) Assess the student using a nationally recognized norm-
7 referenced assessment; or

8 (2) Waive the nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment
9 requirement.

10 (e) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, if the home-
11 schooled student does not meet the requirements of subsection (c) of this
12 section, the public school shall have sole authority to determine the home-
13 schooled student's grade placement and course credits based on the same
14 methods used when a student who attended another public or private school
15 enrolls or reenrolls in the public school.

16 (f) A public school may waive all requirements under subsections (b)
17 and (c) of this section and enroll the student by mutual agreement with the
18 parent or guardian.

19 (g) A home-schooled student who enrolls or ~~reenrolls~~ re-enrolls in a
20 local public school ~~district~~ shall attend classes for at least nine (9)
21 months immediately before graduation before the student can become eligible
22 to ~~receive a high school diploma~~ graduate from the public school ~~district~~
23 with a diploma.

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26 /s/Lowery

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29 **APPROVED: 04/04/2017**