

"AN ACT TO AMEND ACTS 58 AND 93 OF THE FIRST EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF 1983 WHICH ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING DATA ON STUDENTS LEAVING HIGH SCHOOL PRIOR TO GRADUATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Act 58 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1983 and Section 1 of Act 93 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1983, the same being Arkansas Statute 80-1569, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. In addition to the records required by Act 487 of 1973, a record of students leaving school without completing requirements for high school graduation shall be kept by each school district of the State on forms provided by the Department of Education or on forms approved by the Director of the Department of Education as being suitable for the purposes of showing data on students who leave school without completing the requirements for high school graduation. Such records shall not identify the student by name, the records shall show, as to each student in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) inclusive who had been reported in attendance by the school district for the previous attendance reporting period, but who is no longer reported as attending school in that school district the following information: (1) School site; (2) Age; (3) Gender; (4) Racial or ethnic identification; (5) Educational handicapping condition (if any); (6) Reason for leaving. Reporting forms shall include but not be limited to the following reasons for leaving school: (1) Enrollment in another accredited public, private or parochial school program leading to a high school diploma; (2) Failing grades; (3) Lack of interest; (4) Conflict with school; (5) Suspension or expulsion; (6) Economic hardship; (7) Pregnancy or marriage; (8) Peer conflict; (9) Incarceration; (10) Alternative plans other than those listed; (11) Did not return after end of previous semester and none of the reasons listed herein are known to apply."

SECTION 2. Section 2 of Act 58 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1983 and Section 2 of Act 93 of the First Extraordinary Session of 1983, the same being Arkansas Statute 80-1570, are hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 2. Each school district in the State shall file a report on students leaving school without completing requirements for high school graduation as a part of the official attendance report filed with the Department of Education for each quarterly period and shall keep such data on file as a part of the basic attendance records in the district for a period of three (3) years. The requirement for recording such data and making such reports shall go into effect at the beginning of the school year 1983. The State Board of Education shall develop such forms and shall promulgate such rules, regulations and procedures as may be required to implement the intent of this Act. To provide for more accurate, comparable and timely dropout and school leaver statistics and to facilitate inclusion in the national education data system, such forms, rules, regulations and procedures shall be developed and implemented in such a way as to allow for conformity with existing or revised collection processes for such data by the U. S. Department of Education's Center for Statistics."

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are

hereby repealed.

APPROVED: April 7, 1987

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