

*As Engrossed: 3/7/95 3/17/95*

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **80th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1995**

# **A Bill**

**ACT 1109 OF 1995**  
**HOUSE BILL 1777**

4 **By: Representatives Malone and Schexnayder**  
5 ***By: Senator Hardin***

## **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 *"AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ADOPT WRITTEN STUDENT*  
10 *PUBLICATIONS POLICIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."*

### **Subtitle**

13 *"TO REQUIRE WRITTEN STUDENT PUBLICATIONS*  
14 *POLICIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS."*

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

18 SECTION 1. TITLE. This act shall be known and cited as the "Arkansas  
19 Student Publications Act".

21 SECTION 2. Each school board shall adopt rules and regulations in the  
22 form of a written student publications policy developed in conjunction with  
23 the student publication advisor(s) and the appropriate school  
24 administrator(s), consistent with the other provisions of this act, which  
25 shall include reasonable provisions for the time, place, and manner of  
26 distributing student publications. Such policy shall be in place by January  
27 1, 1996.

29 SECTION 3. Student publications policies shall recognize that students  
30 may exercise their right of expression, within the framework outlined in  
31 Section 2 of this act. This right includes expression in school-sponsored  
32 publications, whether such publications are supported financially by the  
33 school or by use of school facilities, or are produced in conjunction with a  
34 class, except as provided in Section 4 of this act.

36 SECTION 4. Student publications policies shall recognize that truth,

1 *fairness, accuracy, and responsibility are essential to the practice of*  
2 *journalism, and that the following types of publications by students are not*  
3 *authorized:*

4       (1) *publications that are obscene as to minors, as defined by state*  
5 *law;*

6       (2) *publications that are libelous or slanderous, as defined by state*  
7 *law;*

8       (3) *publications that constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, as*  
9 *defined by state law; or*

10       (4) *publications that so incite students as to create a clear and*  
11 *present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the*  
12 *violations of lawful school regulations or the material and substantial*  
13 *disruption of the orderly operation of the school.*

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15       SECTION 5. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
16 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
17 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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19       SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
20 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
21 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
22 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
23 act are declared to be severable.

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25       SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
26 hereby repealed.

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*/s/Rep. Malone, et al*

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APPROVED: 4-10-95

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