

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

A Bill

ACT 1237 OF 1995
HOUSE BILL 2004

4 **By: Representatives Wilkins, McKissack, McGee, Townsend, Roberts, Bennett, J. Wilson,**
5 **Pappas, Harris, and Brown**

For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE DELTA REGION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
10 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT PINE BLUFF FOR ELIGIBLE
11 GRADUATES OF PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS LOCATED IN THE ARKANSAS
12 DELTA; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

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15 "TO ESTABLISH THE DELTA REGION
16 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AT UAPB FOR ELIGIBLE
17 GRADUATES OF HIGH SCHOOLS LOCATED IN THE
18 ARKANSAS DELTA."

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

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22 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSES. The General Assembly
23 hereby finds and determines that many of the young people who attend and
24 graduate high schools in the Delta region of Arkansas cannot afford college
25 and do not qualify for college scholarships. They will likely remain in the
26 region, where there are few opportunities for developing job skills and
27 obtaining meaningful employment without further education. As a result,
28 poverty and crime rates in the Delta region are apt to rise even higher in
29 coming years.

30 The General Assembly further finds that one of the most important
31 aspects of the historical mission of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
32 is to provide education to those students who cannot afford to go elsewhere
33 and to be especially sensitive to the needs and problems of these students.
34 It is the purpose of this act to extend an opportunity to young people in the
35 Delta for education and a better life by establishing this scholarship program
36 for them.

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SECTION 2. (a) There is established at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) a Delta Region Scholarship Program for awarding scholarships to eligible students.

(b) Eligibility for a Delta Region Scholarship in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) shall be based on the criteria set forth in this act.

(c) A student shall be eligible for an initial scholarship award from this program if he or she meets all of the following criteria:

(1) The recipient shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and a graduate of a public high school located in the Arkansas Delta region, as defined by the Department of Higher Education;

(2) The recipient shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) in high school of 2.00;

(3) The recipient shall have been a resident of the state of Arkansas for at least twelve (12) months prior to graduation from high school; and

(4) The recipient must be accepted for admission at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff as a first-time entering freshman.

SECTION 3. (a) The recipient of a Delta Region Scholarship awarded under this act may have the scholarship renewed each semester for a maximum of eight (8) semesters if he or she remains eligible under program rules and regulations adopted by UAPB and with the advice of the Department of Higher Education and as funding is available.

(b) Participation in the Delta Region Scholarship Program at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff shall be limited to a maximum of fifty (50) students the first year, with additional students added each succeeding year as funding is available.

SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to

1 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
2 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
3 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
4 act are declared to be severable.

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6 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
7 hereby repealed.

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APPROVED: 4-12-95

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