

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997

As Engrossed: H1/16/97

A Bill

ACT 249 OF 1997
HOUSE BILL 1027

4 By: Representatives Thicksten *and Cook*

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT REQUIRING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
9 REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF PAPERWORK REQUIRED FROM EACH LOCAL
10 SCHOOL DISTRICT BY UTILIZING VARIOUS EXISTING AND EMERGING
11 TECHNOLOGIES TO REPORT INFORMATION; AND FOR OTHER
12 PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

15 "REQUIRING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF
16 EDUCATION TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF
17 PAPERWORK REQUIRED FROM EACH LOCAL
18 SCHOOL DISTRICT BY UTILIZING VARIOUS
19 EXISTING AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES TO
20 REPORT INFORMATION."

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

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24 SECTION 1. Legislative Findings and Intent. The General Assembly finds
25 that the State of Arkansas has provided encouragement and the financial means
26 to build a foundation for an information technology network linking local
27 school districts and the State Department of Education. The General Assembly
28 further finds that the amount of information that local school districts and
29 their personnel are required to furnish the department, while essential, has
30 become increasingly burdensome. The General Assembly therefore expresses its
31 intent and commitment to ensuring that the State Department of Education
32 utilize and continually upgrade to the fullest extent possible the information
33 technology network linking the various school districts and the department.

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35 SECTION 2. (a) The State Board of Education, acting through the State
36 Department of Education, shall use every means available to eliminate the

1 amount of paperwork required by state law and regulation to be reported from
2 each local school district by utilizing to the fullest extent possible,
3 beginning no later than July 1, 1998, the information technology network
4 linking local school districts and the department.

5 (b) The Director of the General Education Division of the State
6 Department of Education shall report on the progress of implementing the
7 provisions of subsection (a) to the members of the House and Senate Interim
8 Education Committees by no later than October 1, 1998.

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10 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
11 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
12 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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14 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
15 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
16 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
17 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
18 act are declared to be severable.

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20 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
21 hereby repealed.

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/s/Rep. Thicksten et al

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APPROVED:2-24-97

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