

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999
4

As Engrossed: S3/1/99
A Bill

Act 853 of 1999
SENATE BILL 641

5 By: Senator Hopkins
6 *By: Representative Faris*
7

8
9 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

10 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS INSTITUTION FOR
11 ADVOCACY FOR THE BLIND; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

12
13 **Subtitle**

14 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS
15 INSTITUTION FOR ADVOCACY FOR THE BLIND."
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17
18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. (a) There is created the Arkansas Institution for Advocacy
21 for the Blind. The institution shall be an institution of learning to train
22 individuals to become advocates for the blind and to provide the information
23 to the public concerning the needs and rights of blind citizens.

24 (b) The institution may provide educational services through a
25 cooperative venture with one (1) or more institutions of higher education.

26 (c) The educational program of the institution shall not duplicate any
27 social, rehabilitative, or educational programs for the blind that are in
28 existence in the state on the effective date of this act.
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30 SECTION 2. (a) There is created the Arkansas Board for the Institution
31 for Advocacy for the Blind.

32 (b)(1) The members of the board shall be appointed by the Governor as
33 follows:

34 (A) Two (2) members shall be persons certified or degreed
35 in the education of children who are visually impaired;

36 (B) One (1) member shall be a person who is legally blind;

1 (C) One (1) member shall be the parent of a legally blind
2 child; and

3 (D) One (1) member shall be appointed from the general
4 public.

5 (2) Appointments shall be made so that no more than two (2)
6 members of the board shall reside in the same congressional district.

7 (3) The racial make-up of the board should reflect the racial
8 population of the state as accurately as possible.

9 (c) The members of the board shall serve for terms of five (5) years.
10 The initial appointees shall determine their terms by lot so that the term of
11 one (1) member shall expire each year.

12 (d) The members of the board shall annually elect a chairperson.

13 (e) Meetings of the board shall be held during evening hours or on
14 Saturdays. At least twenty (20) minutes shall be reserved at the end of each
15 board meeting for members of the public to address the board.

16 (f) Each member of the board may receive expense reimbursement in
17 accordance with 25-16-902.

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19 SECTION 3. Arkansas Board for the Institution for Advocacy for the
20 Blind may:

21 (1) Enter into cooperative ventures with one (1) or more institutions
22 of higher education for the provision of facilities, equipment, and staff
23 necessary for the institution; and

24 (2) Accept donations, gifts, and contributions in money, services,
25 materials, or otherwise from any source and use or expend such moneys,
26 services, materials, or other contributions in carrying on its operations, and
27 accept appropriations from the state upon such terms and conditions as may be
28 imposed by law to be used in the furtherance of this act.

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

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34 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
35 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
36 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without

1 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
2 act are declared to be severable.

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

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/s/ Hopkins

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APPROVED: 3/24/1999

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