

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

As Engrossed: H3/25/03 S4/3/03

A Bill

Act 1204 of 2003
HOUSE BILL 2714

5 By: Representative Mahony
6 By: Senator Gullett
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO ENSURE ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL
11 *OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS; TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS*
12 *WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD AND ADULT EDUCATION*
13 *STUDY COMMITTEE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*
14

Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A CONTINUUM OF
16 ADEQUATE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
17 ADULTS.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 *SECTION 1. Legislative findings and intent.*

24 *(a) The General Assembly recognizes that adequate educational*
25 *opportunities for adults are critical to the economic and social development*
26 *of the state.*

27 *(b) The General Assembly finds that over four hundred ninety-one*
28 *thousand eight hundred sixty-three (491,863) adults age eighteen (18) or*
29 *older, approximately twenty-five percent (25%) of the adult population in*
30 *Arkansas, lack a high school diploma or have not passed the General*
31 *Educational Development Test, and thus there is a critical need for adult*
32 *education and training services.*

33 *(c) It is the intent of this legislation to ensure that the limited*
34 *funds available for adult education and training services are having the*
35 *greatest possible impact on improving the skills and employment and earnings*
36 *prospects of adults in Arkansas.*



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2 SECTION 2. (a)(1) There is established a committee to be known as the
3 “Arkansas Workforce Investment Board and Adult Education Study Committee”.

4 (b) The committee shall consist of twenty-six (26) members as follows:

5 (1)(A) Thirteen (13) members appointed by the Arkansas Workforce
6 Investment Board.

7 (B) Ten (10) of the members appointed by the Arkansas
8 Workforce Investment Board shall be a representative from a workforce center
9 in each of the ten (10) local workforce investment areas of the state; and

10 (2)(A) Thirteen (13) members appointed by the Adult Education
11 Section of the Department of Workforce Education.

12 (B) Ten (10) of the members appointed by the Adult
13 Education Section of the Department of Workforce Education shall be a
14 representative from an adult education program in each of the ten (10) local
15 workforce investment areas of the state.

16 (c) The appointed committee members shall be residents of the State of
17 Arkansas at the time of appointment and throughout his or her term.

18 (d) If a vacancy occurs in an appointed position, for any reason, the
19 vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

20 (2) The new appointee shall serve for the remainder of the
21 unexpired term.

22 (e) The Arkansas Workforce Investment Board and the Adult Education
23 Section of the Department of Workforce Education shall each name one (1)
24 member to serve as cochaIRS of the committee.

25 (f)(1) The cochaIRS of the committee shall call the first
26 organizational meeting within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this
27 act. The committee shall meet at times and places that either of the
28 cochaIRS deems necessary, but no meetings shall be held outside of the State
29 of Arkansas.

30 (2) A majority of the members of the committee shall constitute
31 a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

32 (3) All action of the committee shall be by a majority vote of
33 the full membership of the committee.

34 (g) The committee shall:

35 (1) Review the programs and services offered by workforce
36 centers and adult education programs and determine if those entities offer

1 duplicative services;

2 (2) Determine the extent to which workforce centers and adult
3 education programs are coordinating services to create a seamless system of
4 education and training opportunities for adults; and

5 (3) Make specific recommendations for reducing unnecessary
6 duplication of services and improving the coordination of services between
7 workforce centers and adult education programs in the form of a written
8 report to the Governor, the House Interim Committee on Education, and the
9 Senate Interim Committee on Education on or before September 1, 2004, and an
10 oral report to the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate
11 Interim Committee on Education as directed by the chairs the legislative
12 committees.

13 (h)(1) The Adult Education Section of the Department of Workforce
14 Education and Arkansas Workforce Investment Board shall provide staff and
15 meeting space to the committee.

16 (2)(A) Members of the committee shall serve without pay, except
17 members who receive compensation incidental to his or her regular employment.

18 (B) Members of the committee may receive expense
19 reimbursement in accordance with Arkansas Code § 25-16-902, to be paid by the
20 Adult Education Section of the Department of Workforce Education or Arkansas
21 Workforce Investment Board to the entities respective appointees and to the
22 extent money is available.

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24 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
25 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Arkansas Workforce
26 Investment Board and Adult Education Study Committee needs to meet and
27 organize itself as soon as possible to begin the work of the committee.
28 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately
29 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall
30 become effective on:

31 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

32 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the
33 expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill;
34 or

35 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden,
36 the date the last house overrides the veto.

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/s/ Mahony

APPROVED: 4/9/2003