

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: H3/21/03

# A Bill

Act 1269 of 2003  
HOUSE BILL 2511

5 By: Representatives Cleveland, Fite, Jacobs, Mahony  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF *REDUCTION*  
10 ALLOWED IN THE STATE EQUALIZATION FUNDING; AND  
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF  
14 *REDUCTION* ALLOWED IN THE STATE  
15 EQUALIZATION FUNDING.  
16  
17  
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Uncodified Section 13 of Act 1667 of 2001 is amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 SECTION 13. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE  
24 ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.  
25 STATE EQUALIZATION FUNDING. Of the total amount appropriated each fiscal year  
26 of the 2001-2003 biennium for State Equalization Funding, the Department of  
27 Education shall allocate funding for and distribute to local school districts  
28 an amount not less than \$1,482,875,000 during the 2001-02 fiscal year and an  
29 amount not less than \$1,578,312,080 during the 2002-03 fiscal year for State  
30 Equalization Funding. If the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State reduces the  
31 revenue forecast for the Department of Education Public School Fund Account  
32 below \$1,585,921,514 during the 2001-02 fiscal year or below \$1,681,500,070  
33 for the 2002-03 fiscal year the State Board of Education of may reduce State  
34 Equalization Funding to local school districts prescribed in this Section by  
35 ~~eighty five percent (85%)~~ one hundred percent (100%) of the difference. If  
36 the Chief Fiscal Officer increases the revenue forecast above \$1,585,921,514



1 during the 2001-02 fiscal year or above \$1,681,500,070 for the 2002-03 fiscal  
2 year the State Board of Education may increase State Equalization Funding to  
3 local school districts by ~~eighty five percent (85%)~~ one hundred percent  
4 (100%) of the increase.

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6 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1,  
7 2001 through June 30, 2003.

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9 SECTION 2. This act shall not be applied retroactively.

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11 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
12 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that revenue available for the  
13 support of necessary state services, including education, has declined during  
14 the last twelve (12) months as a result of the nationwide economic slow down;  
15 that without additional revenue, some state services and education programs  
16 will be reduced or eliminated; that some Arkansans and the system of  
17 education will suffer as a result of service reductions or cuts; and that  
18 this act is immediately necessary because it will provide the necessary  
19 revenue to avoid state service reductions or other cuts in education.  
20 Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately  
21 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall  
22 become effective on:

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

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

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

29  
30 /s/ Cleveland

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33 APPROVED: 4/10/2003