

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4

As Engrossed: H4/1/13
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1714

5 By: Representative Word
6

7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL ACT
9 ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
10

11 **Subtitle**

12 TO AMEND THE VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL ACT
13 ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ACT.
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16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1601 is amended to read as follows:
20 6-18-1601. Title.

21 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "~~Voluntary~~
22 Universal ACT Assessment Program Act".
23

24 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1602, concerning the definition of
25 "Smart Core", is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) "Smart Core" means ~~the required curriculum that is part of~~
27 ~~Smart Future, a state initiative focused on improving Arkansas public schools~~
28 ~~for all students so they are prepared for life beyond graduation;~~

29 (A) The college and career readiness curriculum by that
30 name under the rules of the State Board of Education; or

31 (B) A college and career readiness curriculum that is:
32 (i) Established by rules of the state board in
33 coordination with the Department of Higher Education; and

34 (ii) Substituted for the curriculum named "Smart
35 Core".
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1 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1603 is amended to read as follows:
2 6-18-1603. Creation.

3 There is created in the Department of Education the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal
4 ACT Assessment Program to be developed, implemented, and administered by the
5 department as provided in this subchapter.

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7 SECTION 4. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-1604 is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 The purpose of the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program is to:

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11 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1606 is amended to read as follows:
12 6-18-1606. Implementation.

13 *Beginning with the ~~2008-2009~~ 2014-2015 school year, the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal*
14 *ACT Assessment Program may provide each student in ~~grade~~ grades nine (9), ten*
15 *(10), or eleven (11) with the opportunity to take the ACT Assessment while in*
16 *~~grade~~ grades nine (9), ten (10), or eleven (11) without any charge by using*
17 *school district funding, including National School Lunch Act funds, to pay*
18 *for the exams as approved by the Department of Education.*

19
20 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(b)(3)(B)(iv), concerning school
21 performance reports, is amended to read as follows:

22 (iv) *The school district provides college*
23 *preparation and remediation for students who have taken the ACT before their*
24 *senior year of high school under the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment*
25 *Program Act, § 6-18-1601 et seq.*

26
27 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1608 is amended to read as follows:
28 6-18-1608. Reporting.

29 *The Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education*
30 *shall submit a combined annual report to the Legislative Council by December*
31 *1 of each year that establishes compliance with this subchapter, provides*
32 *data on the number of participants in the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment*
33 *Program, and outlines the impact of this program on the college readiness of*
34 *high school seniors and the remediation rates at institutions of higher*
35 *education.*

1 *SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 6-60-703(b)(1)(C), concerning the*
2 *Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report Act, is amended to read*
3 *as follows:*

4 *(C) The ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program, § 6-*
5 *18-1608;*

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7 *SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on July 1, 2014.*

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10 */s/Word*

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13 **APPROVED: 04/22/2013**