

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1477

5 By: Representative McLean
6 By: Senator J. Key
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ALLOW WAIVERS OF THE STANDARDS FOR
10 ACCREDITATION OF ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL
11 DISTRICTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMBINING OR EMBEDDING
12 CURRICULUM FRAMEWORKS INTO A SINGLE COMBINED OR
13 EMBEDDED COURSE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14
15

Subtitle

16
17 TO ALLOW THE CURRICULUM FRAMEWORKS FOR
18 MULTIPLE COURSES TO BE COMBINED OR
19 EMBEDDED IN A SINGLE COURSE.
20
21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
23

24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(b)(2), concerning the requirement
25 for public schools and school districts to meet the Standards for
26 Accreditation of Public Schools and School Districts, is amended to read as
27 follows:

28 (2)(A) Except as provided under subdivisions (b)(2)(B)-(E) of
29 this section, ~~Upon~~ upon a showing of just cause, the state board may grant a
30 waiver of any standard for accreditation for a time period of no longer than
31 one (1) school year, except that no curriculum, student performance, school
32 performance, or any standard required by law may be waived for any time
33 period.

34 (B) The state board may grant a waiver of a standard for
35 accreditation for a time period of longer than one (1) school year to a
36 school district for the purpose of combining or embedding the curriculum



1 frameworks from two (2) separate courses into one (1) combined or embedded
2 course if:

3 (i) The school district timely makes an application
4 for approval of the combined or embedded course to the department under the
5 rules adopted by the state board;

6 (ii) The school district certifies in writing to the
7 state board that all of the curriculum frameworks for the two (2) separate
8 courses will be fully taught in the proposed combined or embedded course;

9 (iii) The department verifies in writing to the
10 state board that all of the curriculum frameworks for the two (2) separate
11 courses are included in the proposed combined or embedded course; and

12 (iv) The proposed combined or embedded course meets
13 all requirements for course approval under the rules adopted by the state
14 board.

15 (C) The state board shall only grant a waiver of a
16 standard for accreditation for proposed combined or embedded courses in
17 grades five (5) through twelve (12).

18 (D) If the state board subsequently revises the curriculum
19 frameworks for either of the separate courses that are combined or embedded
20 into a single course, a school district must submit a new waiver request for
21 a combined or embedded course as set forth in subdivisions (b)(2)(B)-(C) of
22 this section.

23 (E) It is a violation of the Standards for Accreditation
24 of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts for a school to fail to teach
25 the curriculum frameworks for each separate course that is combined or
26 embedded into a single course.

27 (F) The state board shall promulgate rules necessary to
28 administer subdivisions (b)(2)(B)-(E) of this section.

29
30
31 **APPROVED: 03/15/2013**
32
33
34
35
36