State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017  

By: Representatives Tucker, M. Gray  
By: Senators Elliott, Bond  

For An Act To Be Entitled  
AN ACT CONCERNING THE BASIC LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION  
in public schools; and for other purposes.  

Subtitle  
CONCERNING THE BASIC LANGUAGE OF  
instruction in public schools.  

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-16-104 is amended to read as follows:  
6-16-104. Basic language of instruction.  
(a)(1) The basic language of instruction in the public school branches  
in all the schools of the state, public and private, shall be the English  
language only.  
(2) It shall not be a violation of this section for an educator  
to communicate with a student in the student’s native language in order to  
facilitate the student’s ability to become proficient and learn in the  
English language.  
(b) It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Education, the  
Director of the Department of Career Education, and city superintendents to  
see that the provisions of this section are carried out.  
(c) Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be  
 guilty of a violation and upon conviction shall be fined not to exceed  
twenty-five dollars ($25.00), payable into the general school fund of the  
county.  
(d) Each day this violation occurs shall be considered a separate
offense

/s/Tucker

APPROVED: 04/06/2017