

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **First Extraordinary Session, 1992**  
4 **By: Representative Lipton**  
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**A Bill ACT 47 OF 1992** <sup>Call Item 10</sup>  
HOUSE BILL 1002

7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND THE FAMILY INCOME REQUIREMENTS FOR THE  
9 ARKANSAS ACADEMIC CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO BROADEN  
10 MIDDLE CLASS ELIGIBILITY FOR THIS PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES."  
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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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15 SECTION 1. Legislative Findings and Declaration of Public Necessity.  
16 The General Assembly hereby recognizes the importance of providing scholarship  
17 assistance to the children of middle class Arkansas families, particularly for  
18 those who meet the academic requirements of the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
19 Scholarship Program, a guaranteed college scholarship plan to promote academic  
20 achievement and encourage academically prepared Arkansas high school graduates  
21 to enroll in the state\_s colleges and universities which was created by the  
22 1991 General Assembly.  
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24 SECTION 2. Eligibility for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship  
25 Program shall be based on the criteria set forth in Arkansas Code Annotated 6-  
26 82-1001 through 6-82-1006, except that section (b)(3) of 6-82-1005 shall be  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 "(3) The student must demonstrate financial need as defined by the  
29 Department of Higher Education. In calculating student financial need for  
30 applicants who graduate from an Arkansas high school after May 1, 1991, the  
31 following criteria shall be used:

32 (A) An applicant whose family includes one (1) unemancipated  
33 child under the age of twenty-one (21) shall have average family adjusted  
34 gross income over the previous two (2) years not exceeding thirty-five  
35 thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year at the time of application to the program.  
36 If the applicant is an adopted child who was at least twelve (12) years of

1 age at the time of adoption, and the applicant's family includes one (1)  
2 unemancipated adopted child under twenty-one (21) years of age, the adoptive  
3 family's average adjusted gross income for the previous two (2) years shall  
4 not exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) per year.

5 (B) An applicant whose family includes two (2) unemancipated  
6 children under the age of twenty-one (21) shall have average family adjusted  
7 gross income over the previous two (2) years not exceeding forty thousand  
8 dollars (\$40,000) per year at the time of application to the program. If the  
9 applicant is an adopted child who was at least twelve (12) years of age at the  
10 time of adoption, and the applicant's family includes two (2) unemancipated  
11 adopted children under twenty-one (21) years of age, the adoptive family's  
12 average adjusted gross income for the previous two (2) years shall not exceed  
13 fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year.

14 (C) An applicant whose family includes three (3) or more  
15 unemancipated children under the age of twenty-one (21) shall have average  
16 family adjusted gross income over the previous two (2) years not exceeding  
17 forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) per year at the time of application to  
18 the program, plus, for families with more than three (3) unemancipated  
19 children under the age of twenty-one (21), an additional five thousand dollars  
20 (\$5,000) per year for each additional child. If the applicant is an adopted  
21 child who was at least twelve (12) years of age at the time of adoption, and  
22 the applicant's family includes three (3) unemancipated adopted children under  
23 twenty-one (21) years of age, the adoptive family's average adjusted gross  
24 income for the previous two (2) years shall not exceed sixty thousand dollars  
25 (\$60,000) per year, plus, for families with more than three (3) unemancipated  
26 adopted children under the age of twenty-one (21), an additional ten thousand  
27 dollars (\$10,000) per year for each additional child."

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29 SECTION 3. Section (b)(1) of 6-82-1005 shall be amended to read as  
30 follows:

31 "(b)(1) A student shall be eligible for an award from this program if  
32 he or she meets all of these criteria:

33 (A) The recipient shall have graduated from an Arkansas high  
34 school on or after March 5, 1991, and within twenty-four (24) months of  
35 enrolling as a full-time first-time freshman at an approved institution of

1 higher education;

2 (B) The recipient shall have been a resident of the State of  
3 Arkansas for at least twelve (12) months prior to graduation from an Arkansas  
4 high school, and the recipient's parent or parents or guardian or guardians  
5 shall have maintained Arkansas residency for the same period of time;

6 (C) The recipient must be a citizen of the United States or be a  
7 permanent resident alien;

8 (D) The recipient must be accepted for admission at an approved  
9 institution of higher education as a full-time first-time freshman, as defined  
10 by the Department of Higher Education, and must enroll in an approved  
11 institution within twenty-four (24) months of high school graduation; and

12 (E) The recipient must have successfully completed the  
13 precollegiate core curriculum established by the State Boards of Education and  
14 Higher Education pursuant to §§6-61-111, 6-61-217, and 6-61-218."

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16 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code 6-82-1004(e) is hereby amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 "(e) The Departments of Education and Higher Education are directed to  
19 develop appropriate informational materials on the Arkansas Academic Challenge  
20 Scholarship Program and insure their distribution to Arkansas students in  
21 grades Kindergarten through twelve (12) each year as part of the packet of  
22 materials on precollegiate preparation distributed by the Department of  
23 Education as mandated by §§ 6-61-111, 6-61-217, and 6-61-218. This shall be  
24 accomplished through the use of school counselors."

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26 SECTION 5. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
27 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
28 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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30 SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
31 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
32 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
33 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
34 act are declared to be severable.

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1 SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
2 hereby repealed. /s/John M. Lipton

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APPROVED: 3-17-92

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