

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**
4 **By: Representative Baker**

A Bill

ACT 316 OF 1993
HOUSE BILL 1345

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 6, CHAPTER 51 TO ADD
9 A NEW SUBCHAPTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE _MODEL VOCATIONAL-
10 TECHNICAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER ACT OF 1993_; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

14 **"THE MODEL VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL EDUCATION**
15 **RESOURCE CENTER ACT OF 1993."**

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

20 **SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 51 is amended to add a new subchapter**
21 **to read as follows:**

"SUBCHAPTER 7.

6-51-701. Title.

26 **The title of this subchapter shall be the _Model Vocational-Technical Education**
27 **Resource Center Act of 1993_.**

6-51-702. Definitions.

30 **For the purpose of this subchapter _resource center_ means the Vocational-Technical**
31 **Education Resource Center created by this subchapter.**

33 **6-51-703. Model Vocational-Technical Education Resource Center established -**
34 **Functions.**

35 **(a) There is established a model resource center for a system of multi-county**
36 **vocational and technical education services. The model resource center shall be located within**

1 **the North East Arkansas Education Services Cooperative service area, established pursuant to**
2 **Arkansas Code 6-13-1002 et seq. The resource center shall be an intermediate service unit in**
3 **the state's vocational and technical education system for public schools and other vocational,**
4 ***technical, or adult* programs in the state and as such shall be eligible to receive and expend**
5 **funds from state and federal governments, school districts, and other public or private sources.**

6 **(b) The resource center established by this subchapter will provide to school districts**
7 **and *other vocational, technical, or adult programs* which choose to use them assistance in:**

8 **(1) Meeting or exceeding accreditation standards and equalizing vocational and**
9 **technical educational opportunities;**

10 **(2) Using vocational and technical educational resources more effectively**
11 **through cooperation; and**

12 **(3) Promoting coordination vocational and technical programs and services.**

13

14 **6-51-704. Board of directors.**

15 **(a) The resource center shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of nine (9)**
16 **members to be composed as follows:**

17 **(1) Five (5) members shall be representative of school districts in the service**
18 **area;**

19 **(2) Two (2) members shall be representative of business or industry in the**
20 **service area; and**

21 **(3) Two (2) members shall be representative of *other vocational, technical, or***
22 ***adult programs* serving the area.**

23 **(b) The selection of board members shall be made in such a manner so that as near as**
24 **possible each county in the area has equal representation.**

25 **(c) The initial board shall be selected by a majority vote of the superintendents of the**
26 **school districts in the area from a list of nominees submitted by the North East Arkansas**
27 **Vocational-Technical Education Advisory Council. Thereafter, vacancies shall be filled by a**
28 **majority vote of the remaining board members of the resource center.**

29 **(d) The board of directors of the resource center shall function as a public corporate**
30 **body, shall meet at least four (4) times each year, and shall exercise general fiduciary**
31 **responsibilities for the resource center with regard to policies and practices which guard the**
32 **integrity of the *center* and maintain public trust in its operation.**

33 **(e) The responsibilities of the board, consistent with funds available, shall include, but**
34 **not be limited to:**

35 **(1) Employment of a director of the resource center who shall serve as the**

1 nonvoting executive officer of the board of directors;

2 **(2) Establishment of policies and procedures for the operation and**
3 **management of the resource center which shall be in written form and shall be filed with the**
4 **State Board of Vocational Education;**

5 **(3) Preparation of an annual budget estimating income and expenditures for**
6 **programs and services in accordance with procedures *approved* by the State Board of**
7 **Vocational Education;**

8 **(4) Receipt and expenditure of funds needed to provide programs and services**
9 **in the area;**

10 **(5) Making such surveys or other inquiries which may be required to determine**
11 **the service needs of school districts, *other vocational, technical, or adult programs*, and**
12 **business and industry in the area served by the resource center and developing plans to provide**
13 **such needed services;**

14 **(6) Employment, upon the recommendations of the director of the resource**
15 **center, of such personnel as may be required to provide the services requested in the area;**

16 **(7) Cooperation with school districts, *other vocational, technical, or adult***
17 ***programs*, business and industry, and other agencies to provide programs and services for**
18 **children and adults residing within the areas;**

19 **(8) Renting, leasing, or receiving by gift such facilities and buildings as may be**
20 **required to provide authorized programs and services; and**

21 **(9) Carrying out such other duties which may be required for the efficient**
22 **operation of the resource center for which the board is responsible. (f) The board may**
23 ***petition the State Board of Vocational Education* to establish a vocational center which will**
24 **provide, consistent with funds available, vocational education opportunities to students.**

25

26 **6-51-705. Personnel generally.**

27 **(a) Personnel of the resource center shall be employed in accordance with laws, rules,**
28 **regulations, and procedures applicable to the school districts of this state.**

29 **(b) Certificate requirements shall be the same as those expected of persons holding**
30 **similar positions in local school districts. However, the Director of Vocational and Technical**
31 **Education may grant a waiver from this subsection in exceptional circumstances.**

32 **(c) Termination or contract nonrenewal of resource center personnel shall be as**
33 **provided by law for the school district personnel.**

34

35 **6-51-706. Agency personnel.**

1 **With the approval of the board of directors of the resource center, the Director of**
2 **Vocational-Technical Education and the Director of General Education may assign state**
3 **educational agency personnel to the resource center.**

4
5 **6-51-707. Programs and services.**

6 **(a) The programs and services of the resource center shall be based upon the needs of**
7 **the school districts and *other vocational, technical, or adult programs* included in its service**
8 **area and upon the educational priorities of the state.**

9 **(b) The resource center may provide vocational and technical educational programs**
10 **and services which the State Board of Vocational Education may approve or which school**
11 **districts or *other vocational, technical, or adult programs* may support with local funds.**

12
13 **6-51-708. Participation of local school districts - Contracts.**

14 **(a) No school district or *other vocational, technical, or adult program* shall be**
15 **required to participate in any service.**

16 **(b) School districts and *other vocational, technical, or adult programs* may enter into**
17 **contract with the resource center for services supported partially or completely by funds of the**
18 **school district or *other vocational, technical, or adult program*.**

19
20 **6-51-709. Funding of resource center.**

21 **(a) As a public agency, the resource center shall be eligible to receive and expend**
22 **public and private funds.**

23 **(b) School districts and *other vocational, technical, or adult programs* may contract**
24 **with the resource center for services and part-time personnel to be supported in whole or in**
25 **part by local funds, but no school district or *other vocational, technical, or adult program* shall**
26 **be assessed a membership fee.**

27 **(c) Categorical state or federal funds may be assigned to the resource center upon**
28 **approval of its board of directors and under conditions set by the State Board of Vocational**
29 **Education or the State Board of Education.**

30
31 **6-51-710. Policies and procedures - Expenditures, reports, and audits.**

32 **(a) *In consultation with the State Board of Vocational Education, the policies,***
33 ***procedures, and a strategic plan for the operation of the resource center shall be developed***
34 ***and filed with the State Board of Vocational Education prior to the start up of the center.***
35 ***These documents shall be updated annually and filed with the State Board of Vocational***

1 **Education** on or before **June 1** of each year.

2 **(b) Reports of receipts and expenditures shall also be filed with the State Board**
3 **of Vocational Education on forms provided and time schedules set by the Director of**
4 **Vocational-Technical Education. These reports shall contain, but not be limited to, an**
5 **itemization of administrative and programmatic expenditures. Expenditures shall be reported**
6 **in accordance with uniform accounting procedures adopted by the Vocational and Technical**
7 **Education Division.**

8 **(c) The resource center shall be subject to annual audits by the Legislative**
9 **Joint Auditing Committee.**

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11 **SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are**
12 **amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision**
13 **Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.**

14

15 **SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or**
16 **circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of**
17 **the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end**
18 **the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.**

19

20 **SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.**

21

22 **SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby found and determined by the**
23 **General Assembly that the establishment of a vocational-technical education resource center,**
24 **as provided for in this act, is essential if needed improvements are to be made in vocational**
25 **education programs in this state and that immediate action is necessary if the Vocational-**
26 **Technical Education Resource Center is formed and ready for operation by the beginning of**
27 **the 1993-94 school year. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act**
28 **being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be**
29 **in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.**

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/s/Thomas G. Baker

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APPROVED: 03/02/93