As Engrossed: 1/20/95

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2	80th General Assembly ABill ACT 287 OF 1995
3	Regular Session, 1995HOUSE BILL1254
4	By: Representatives McGinnis, Newman, Bisbee, Argue and Miller
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7	For An Act To Be Entitled
8	"AN ACT TO CREATE INCENTIVES FOR THE EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT
9	OF ARKANSAS PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES; AND FOR
10	OTHER PURPOSES."
11	
12	Subtitle
13	"TO ESTABLISH INCENTIVES FOR THE
14	ADMINISTRATIVE CONSOLIDATION OF PUBLIC
15	COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES."
16	
17	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19	SECTION 1. The purpose of this act is to create incentives for more
20	efficient management of the public higher education resources of the State of
21	Arkansas by allowing public higher education institutions and their boards of
22	trustees to merge or consolidate on a voluntary basis and to consolidate
23	administrative functions by transferring them to another institution.
24	SECTION 2. A fund account is hereby established called the Higher
25	Education Consolidation Matching Fund. Monies deposited in this account shall
26	be made available to match documented savings at public institutions of higher
27	education that consolidate or merge. The amount of matching funds to be made
28	available from the Higher Education Consolidation Matching Fund shall be
29	determined by the State Board of Higher Education. Upon review and approval
30	of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the funds shall be transferred to
31	the newly constituted or merged institution from the Higher Education
32	Consolidation Matching Fund.
33	SECTION 3. Consolidations and Mergers. The institutional
34	consolidations and mergers eligible for matching funds under the terms of this
35	act include two or more public universities; two or more public two-year

36 colleges; community colleges and technical institutes located in the same city

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or the same county; new systems of public higher education institutions
composed of two- and four-year institutions under the control of a single
board of trustees; existing systems of public higher education institutions
that add two and/or four-year institutions to the system; and administrative
function consolidation with similar services or operations at another
institution.

7 SECTION 4. Consolidations or mergers involving community colleges shall 8 be subject to the provisions of Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-61-519, where 9 applicable, when the result of a consolidation or a merger requires 10 dissolution of the community college district. Any agreements made by 11 community colleges with other public colleges or universities to consolidate 12 or merge are declared to be consistent with the provisions of Arkansas Code 13 Annotated § 6-61-524, which permits the sharing of facilities, personnel, and 14 services by community colleges.

15 SECTION 5. Rules and Regulations. The State Board of Higher Education 16 is authorized, in consultation with the public colleges and universities, to 17 develop policies, rules, and regulations to implement the provisions of this 18 act.

19 SECTION 6. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature 20 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code 21 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

22 SECTION 7. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to 23 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect 24 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without 25 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this 26 act are declared to be severable.

27 SECTION 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are 28 hereby repealed.

/s/Rep. McGinnis, et al

APPROVED: 2-13-95

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