

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed  
prior to this session of the General Assembly.  
Act 570 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2736

5 By: Representatives J. Roebuck, Abernathy, Stewart  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE TASK  
10 FORCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION REMEDIATION, RETENTION,  
11 AND GRADUATION RATES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
12 APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS; TO DESCRIBE ITS  
13 MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND FOR OTHER  
14 PURPOSES.  
15

## Subtitle

16 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS  
17 LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON HIGHER  
18 EDUCATION REMEDIATION, RETENTION, AND  
19 GRADUATION RATES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE  
20 APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS; TO DESCRIBE  
21 ITS MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES.  
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 10, Chapter 3 is amended to add an  
28 additional subchapter to read as follows:

29 10-3-2401. Title.

30 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas  
31 Legislative Task Force on Higher Education Remediation, Retention, and  
32 Graduation rates".  
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34 10-3-2402. Creation.

35 (a) There is created the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Higher



1 Education Remediation, Retention, and Graduation Rates.

2 (b) The task force shall consist of the following fifteen (15)  
 3 members:

4 (1) The Governor or the Governor's designee;

5 (2) The Chair of the House Interim Committee on Education or the  
 6 chair's designee;

7 (3) The Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Education or  
 8 the Chair's designee;

9 (4) The Chair of the Higher Education Subcommittee of the  
 10 Arkansas Legislative Council or the Chair's designee;

11 (5) The Director of the Department of Higher Education, or the  
 12 director's designee;

13 (6) The Commissioner of Education or the Commissioner's  
 14 designee;

15 (7) The President of the Arkansas Education Association or the  
 16 president's designee;

17 (8) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Association of  
 18 Educational Administrators or the executive director's designee;

19 (9) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Association of Two-  
 20 Year Colleges or the executive director's designee;

21 (10) Four (4) faculty members with specialized knowledge, skills  
 22 or experience in the area of remediation representing institutions of higher  
 23 education with one (1) from each of the four (4) congressional districts  
 24 appointed by the Director of Higher Education.

25 (11) A Vice president or Provost of Academic Affairs appointed  
 26 by the Director of Higher Education; and

27 (12) The Vice-president of Academic Affairs at a two-year higher  
 28 education institution at a four-year higher education institution appointed  
 29 by the Director of Higher Education.

30 (c)(1) The Chair of the House Interim Committee on Education or the  
 31 chair's designee shall call the first meeting within thirty (30) days of the  
 32 effective date of this act and shall serve as chair at the first meeting.

33 (2) At the first meeting, the members of the task force shall  
 34 elect from its membership a chair and other officers as needed for the  
 35 transaction of its business.

36 (3)(A) The task force shall conduct its meetings in Pulaski

1 County at the State Capitol.

2 (B) Meetings shall be held at least one (1) time every  
3 three (3) months but may occur more often at the call of the chair.

4 (d) If any vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy shall be  
5 filled by the same process as the original appointment.

6 (e) The task force shall establish rules and procedures for conducting  
7 its business.

8 (f) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but  
9 may receive expense reimbursement according to § 25-16-902.

10 (g) A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a  
11 quorum for transacting any business of the task force.

12 (h) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff for the  
13 task force.

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15 10-3-2403. Duties.

16 The Arkansas Legislative Task Higher Education Remediation, Retention,  
17 and Graduation Rates shall:

18 (1) Compile information on research that has been done in  
19 Arkansas and nationally on reducing remediation, improving retention, and  
20 increasing graduation rates;

21 (2) Summarize data on rates of remediation, types of testing  
22 used to determine college readiness, and characteristics of programs that are  
23 most effective in addressing skill deficits, and data on effectiveness of  
24 remediation for students with entering skill deficits;

25 (3) Create a definition of remediation to assure consistency in  
26 reporting of remediation among colleges and universities throughout Arkansas;

27 (4) Identify the underlying factors that contribute to the  
28 number of students who are not ready for collegiate level classes in certain  
29 disciplines at the time of high school graduation;

30 (5) Identify best practices examples of school systems and  
31 colleges that are having success in reducing the need for remedial education;

32 (6) Brainstorm new approaches that may be effective in producing  
33 increased levels of college readiness;

34 (7) Attempt to clarify the role that various types of colleges  
35 and universities should play in addressing the need for remediation;

36 (8) Review graduation rates of the state's colleges and

1 universities for the past six (6) years;

2 (9) Develop a set of written recommendations for the General  
3 Assembly that will improve remediation, retention, and graduation rates at  
4 the state's colleges and universities; and

5 (10) Present the written recommendations of the Task Force to  
6 the General Assembly by November 1, 2008.

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8 10-3-2404. Expiration of Task Force.

9 The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Higher Education Remediation,  
10 Retention, and Graduation rates shall cease to exist effective January 1,  
11 2009.

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13 APPROVED: 3/28/2007  
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