

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: S3/17/11

A Bill

SENATE BILL 268

5 By: Senator D. Johnson
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ALLOW PARENTS OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS TO
9 MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM
10 ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE SIBLINGS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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14 TO ALLOW PARENTS OF MULTIPLE BIRTH
15 SIBLINGS TO MAKE DECISIONS REGARDING
16 PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASSROOM ASSIGNMENTS FOR
17 THE SIBLINGS.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 1 is amended
23 to add an additional section to read as follows:

24 6-18-106. Classroom assignment of multiple birth siblings.

25 (a) As used in this section:

26 (1) "Multiple birth sibling" means a twin, triplet, quadruplet,
27 or other sibling resulting from a multiple birth; and

28 (2) "Parent" means the parent, legal guardian, or other person
29 having custody or charge of a student enrolled in a public school.

30 (b) Not later than the fourteenth day before the first day of school, a
31 parent of multiple birth siblings who are assigned to the same grade level
32 and school, in prekindergarten through grade six (prek-6), may request in
33 writing that the school place the siblings in the same classroom or in
34 separate classrooms.

35 (c) Except as provided by subsection (e) or (g), a school shall provide
36 the multiple birth siblings with the classroom placement requested by the



1 parent.

2 (d) In the event that one (1) parent's election under subsection (c)
3 of this section differs from another parent's election under subsection (c)
4 of this section, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the
5 multiple birth siblings.

6 (e) The school may direct a classroom placement for the multiple birth
7 siblings that differs from the parent's request if:

8 (1) Thirty (30) instructional days have lapsed since the date
9 the multiple birth siblings' began the classroom placement made at the
10 parent's request; and

11 (2) After consulting with the teacher of each classroom in which
12 the multiple birth siblings are placed, the school determines that the
13 classroom placement requested by the parent is:

14 (A) Detrimental to the educational achievement of one (1)
15 or more of the multiple birth siblings;

16 (B) Disruptive to the classroom learning environment where
17 the multiple birth sibling is assigned; or

18 (C) Disruptive to the school's educational or disciplinary
19 environment.

20 (f) A parent may appeal the school's classroom placement of multiple
21 birth siblings in the manner provided by school district policy.

22 (g) A school district is not required to place multiple birth siblings
23 in separate classrooms if the request would require the school district to
24 add an additional class to the grade level of the multiple birth siblings.

25 (h) A school district shall adopt a written policy concerning the
26 procedures for classroom placements of multiple birth siblings that is
27 consistent with this section.

28 (i) This section does not affect a right or obligation of the school or
29 school district regarding student placement decisions of the school district
30 under:

31 (1) The Children With Disabilities Act of 1973, § 6-41-201 et
32 seq.;

33 (2) The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C.
34 Section 1400 et seq., as it exists on the effective date of this section; or

35 (3) Written school district disciplinary policies.

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/s/D. Johnson

APPROVED: 04/01/2011