

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1836

5 By: Representative Cozart  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS  
9 PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
10

### Subtitle

11 TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS  
12 PROGRAM.  
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(4), concerning eligibility for  
20 the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

21 (4) Graduates from+

22 ~~(A) A a high school in this state, for Arkansas Governor's~~  
23 ~~Scholars; or~~

24 ~~(B) A high school, for Arkansas Governor's Distinguished~~  
25 ~~Scholars;~~  
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27 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(6)(B), concerning eligibility  
28 for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to add additional  
29 subdivisions to read as follows:

30 (iii)(a) After determining qualified recipients  
31 based on the qualifications under subdivision (b)(6)(A) of this section, the  
32 Department of Higher Education shall ensure that at least one (1) recipient  
33 is selected from each of the seventy-five (75) counties in Arkansas.

34 (b) If any of the seventy-five (75) counties  
35 is not represented, the Department of Higher Education shall select a student  
36 from each non-represented county with the highest qualifications under



1 subdivision (b)(6)(A) of this section who was not initially qualified.

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3 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-82-308 is amended to read as follows:

4 6-82-308. Number ~~and geographic distribution~~ of scholarships.

5 (a) If sufficient funds are available, effective for students receiving  
6 their initial awards beginning in fall 2007, the number of initial  
7 scholarship awards to eligible high achievers shall not exceed three hundred  
8 seventy-five (375) each year, ~~to be distributed as follows:~~

9 ~~(1) Up to three hundred (300) Arkansas Governor's Distinguished~~  
10 ~~Scholarships; and~~

11 ~~(2)(A) Seventy-five (75) Arkansas Governor's Scholarships at four~~  
12 ~~thousand dollars (\$4,000) per year.~~

13 ~~(B) The seventy-five (75) Arkansas Governor's Scholarships~~  
14 ~~shall be awarded to one (1) student in each of the seventy-five (75) counties~~  
15 ~~in Arkansas.~~

16 (b)(1) A report that demonstrates, based on economic projections and  
17 revenue forecasts, that sufficient funds are available to award scholarships  
18 to high achievers relative to the number of Arkansas Academic Challenge  
19 Scholarship recipients shall be submitted to the House Committee on  
20 Education, the Senate Committee on Education, and the Legislative Council for  
21 review prior to obligating the funds.

22 (2) Should a shortfall of funds be projected, the Department of  
23 Higher Education shall promulgate rules for the priority funding of these  
24 scholarships and submit these proposed rules to the Arkansas Higher Education  
25 Coordinating Board for a public hearing and to the ~~Subcommittee on~~  
26 ~~Administrative Rules and Regulations~~ Review Subcommittee of the Legislative  
27 Council for review before implementing the rules.

28 (3) If there are more eligible applicants than available  
29 scholarships, the department may determine a procedure for awarding  
30 additional scholarships while not exceeding available funds.

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33 **APPROVED: 03/31/2015**  
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