Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law. Act 564 of the Regular Session

1	State of Arkansas	A D'11	
2	91st General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 2017		HOUSE BILL 1591
4			
5	By: Representative Vaught		
6			
7		For An Act To Be Entitled	
8	AN ACT TO AME	END THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING	THE
9	PROFESSIONAL	LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD; AND	FOR OTHER
10	PURPOSES.		
11			
12		~	
13		Subtitle	
14	TO AMENI	D THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING T	THE
15	PROFESS	IONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD.	
16			
17			
18	BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENE	ERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF AR	KANSAS:
19			
20		croductory language of Arkansas	
21	_	e membership of the Professional	Licensure Standards
22	Board, is amended to read		
23		sional Licensure Standards Board	
24	-	members appointed by the State	Board of Education as
25	follows:		
26			1
27		as Code § 6-17-422(b)(1)(C), con	-
28	-	sional Licensure Standards Board	, is amended to read
29	as follows:		
30		Four (4) public school classro	
31	-	licenses who are recommended by	the Arkansas
32	Education Association, an		of himsh so
33 24	1	(i)<u>(</u>a) A licensure level	of pirth to
34 35	kindergarten;	(ii)(b) A licensume land	of kindorsorton
35 26	through and at- (V ())	(ii)(b) A licensure level	or kindergarten
36	through grade six (K-6);		



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1	(iii)(c) A licensure level of grades four
2	through eight (4-8); and
3	(iv)(d) A licensure level of grades seven
4	through twelve (7-12); and
5	(ii) Two (2) public school classroom teachers with
6	valid Arkansas teaching licenses who:
7	(a) Are recommended by the Arkansas State
8	Teachers Association; and
9	(b) Teach at any licensure level;
10	
11	SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(b)(1), concerning the membership
12	of the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is amended to add additional
13	subdivisions to read as follows:
14	(I) One (1) teacher or administrator recommended by the
15	Arkansas Public School Resource Center who is currently employed under a
16	waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or an administrator; and
17	(J) One (1) public school administrator with a valid
18	Arkansas teaching and building-level or district-level administrator's
19	license recommended by the Arkansas Rural Education Association;
20	
21	SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-17-422(h)(2) and (3), concerning the
22	duties of the Professional Licensure Standards Board, is amended to read as
23	follows:
24	(2)(A) With the assistance of the Department of Education and
25	the Department of Higher Education, review the audits of the teacher
26	education programs offered by all institutions of higher education in the
27	state to determine if the institutions' teacher education programs and
28	courses of study are aligned as necessary to allow graduates of the teacher
29	education program to become licensed under this act and the rules set by the
30	State Board of Education develop a system for the annual reporting and review
31	of educator preparation program quality.
32	(B) The system may include without limitation:
33	(i) Data reporting and analysis on:
34	(a) Program graduate employment outcomes;
35	(b) Survey outcomes; and
36	(c) Public school student learning outcomes;

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1	(ii) Accreditation or state approval; and
2	(iii) Program quality ratings;
3	(B)(i)(a) To ensure alignment with standards in university
4	course syllabi for licensure, the Department of Education shall conduct
5	audits of licensure programs of study at all Arkansas institutions of higher
6	education.
7	(b) The audits shall use state standards or
8	national standards for licensure programs, or a combination of both.
9	(ii) The audits shall be conducted on a seven-year
10	cycle beginning on July 1, 2016, and provided to the Professional Licensure
11	Standards Board.
12	(iii)(a) Institutions of higher education that do
13	not comply with the Department of Education's audit findings and
14	recommendations shall have two (2) full semesters to provide to the
15	Department of Education for its review and approval a plan to bring programs
16	into compliance with the audit recommendations and submit documentation of
17	compliance to the Professional Licensure Standards Board by the end of the
18	next full academic year following the date of the plan approval.
19	(b) If the institution of higher education
19 20	(b) If the institution of higher education description descriptis description description description description description
20	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the
20 21	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the
20 21 22	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the
20 21 22 23	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and
20 21 22 23 24	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and (3)(A)(i) Establish a code of ethics for administrators and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and (3)(A)(i) Establish a code of ethics for administrators and teachers, including those employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, in educational environments for students in prekindergarten through grade twelve (preK-12), including procedures and recommendations for enforcement as provided in this subdivision (h)(3). (ii) For educators employed under a waiver from</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and (3)(A)(i) Establish a code of ethics for administrators and teachers, including those employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, in educational environments for students in prekindergarten through grade twelve (preK-12), including procedures and recommendations for enforcement as provided in this subdivision (h)(3). (ii) For educators employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, the procedures and
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<pre>does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and</pre>
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and (3)(A)(i) Establish a code of ethics for administrators and teachers, including those employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, in educational environments for students in prekindergarten through grade twelve (preK-12), including procedures and recommendations for enforcement as provided in this subdivision (h)(3). (ii) For educators employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, the procedures and recommendations for enforcement shall consist of procedures and public notifications equivalent to the levels of recommended sanctions for licensed
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33	does not bring its program into compliance with audit recommendations, the Professional Licensure Standards Board shall submit a recommendation to the State Board of Education for discontinuance of the authority of the institution to offer the licensure program; and (3)(A)(i) Establish a code of ethics for administrators and teachers, including those employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, in educational environments for students in prekindergarten through grade twelve (preK-12), including procedures and recommendations for enforcement as provided in this subdivision (h)(3). (ii) For educators employed under a waiver from licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, the procedures and recommendations for enforcement shall consist of procedures and public notifications equivalent to the levels of recommended sanctions for licensed educators.

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1 person shall be subject to the conditions, requirements, and mandates of the 2 code of ethics, procedures, and recommendations for enforcement; and 3 (ii) For an educator employed under a waiver from 4 licensure as a teacher of record or as an administrator, the educator shall 5 be subject to the conditions, requirements, and mandates of the code of 6 ethics, procedures, and recommendations for enforcement, including the public 7 notifications under subdivision (h)(3)(A)(ii). 8 (C)(i) The Professional Licensure Standards Board may 9 recommend to the State Board of Education, and the State Board of Education 10 may approve the monetary fees to be paid by a person for the issuance, 11 reissuance, fine, or penalty associated with the process, procedures, or 12 enforcement of requirements necessary to issue or maintain an Arkansas 13 teaching license. 14 (ii) Under no circumstances shall any one (1) 15 specific fee or fine exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) five hundred dollars 16 (\$500). 17 (iii) Revenue collected by the State Board of 18 Education from the fees and fines under this subdivision (h)(3)(C) shall be 19 used for the operation of the Professional Licensure Standards Board-; and 20 21 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-17-428(a)(2), concerning the definition 22 of "educator" for the purpose of ethical violations, is amended to read as 23 follows: "Educator" means: 24 (2) 25 (A) A person holding a valid Arkansas standard teaching 26 license, ancillary license, provisional license, technical permit, or 27 administrator's license issued by the State Board of Education; or 28 (B) A preservice teacher; or 29 (C) An individual employed under a waiver from licensure 30 as a teacher of record or as an administrator; 31 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-17-428(b)(1), concerning the duties of 32 33 the Professional Licensure Standards Board regarding ethical violations, is amended to read as follows: 34 35 (b)(1) The Professional Licensure Standards Board shall: 36 (A) Establish procedures for:

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1 (i) Receiving and investigating an ethics complaint; 2 (ii) Enforcing the code of ethics; and 3 (iii) Granting and conducting hearings under this 4 section; and 5 (iv) Publicizing notifications equivalent to the 6 recommendations for enforcement of the code of ethics; 7 (B) Make recommendations for enforcement of the code of 8 ethics; and 9 (C) Develop public notifications equivalent to the 10 recommendations for enforcement of the code of ethics; and 11 (D) Establish an ethics subcommittee of the Professional 12 Licensure Standards Board with equal representation of public school teachers 13 and administrators as well as one (1) member from any other category of 14 representation on the Professional Licensure Standards Board. 15 16 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-17-428(p)(3), concerning the reporting of 17 sexual abuse of a student, is amended to read as follows: 18 (3)(A)(i) By March 1, 2014, the The department shall establish 19 and maintain a website providing a school hiring officer with the ability to 20 determine if the State Board of Education has acted upon an ethics complaint 21 concerning a violation of the standard in subdivision (p)(2)(A) of this 22 section involving the sexual abuse of a student by an applicant for 23 employment who holds an Arkansas teaching or administrator's license or an individual intending to be employed under a waiver from licensure as a 24 teacher of record or as an administrator. 25 26 (ii) The website shall identify the action taken on 27 the ethics complaint. 28 (B) Beginning March 1, 2014, before Before an educator who holds an Arkansas teaching license or administrator's license or an 29 individual intending to be employed under a waiver from licensure as a 30 31 teacher of record or as an administrator may be hired for employment at an 32 Arkansas school, the school hiring officer shall check the website maintained by the department under subdivision (p)(3)(A) of this section to determine 33 34 whether the State Board of Education has acted upon a violation of the 35 standard in subdivision (p)(2)(A) of this section involving the sexual abuse 36 of a student by the applicant.

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