

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1102

5 By: Representative Evans
6 By: Senator J. Sturch
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERS
10 OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS; TO REQUIRE
11 ADDITIONAL TRAINING ON INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOOL
12 SAFETY AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE; TO STANDARDIZE THE
13 FORMAT OF THE REQUIRED REPORT REGARDING TRAINING
14 REQUIREMENTS; TO INCREASE THE TIME BY WHICH A SCHOOL
15 BOARD MEMBER MAY CURE A TRAINING HOUR DEFICIENCY; AND
16 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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19 TO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TRAINING ON SCHOOL
20 SAFETY AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE FOR BOARD
21 MEMBERS; TO STANDARDIZE THE TRAINING
22 REQUIREMENTS REPORT; AND TO INCREASE THE
23 TIME BY WHICH A BOARD MEMBER MAY CURE A
24 TRAINING HOUR DEFICIENCY.
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28 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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30 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-13-629(a)(1), concerning required
31 training hours for school board members, is amended to read as follows:

32 (a)(1)(A) A member of a local school district board of directors who
33 has served on the board of directors for twelve (12) or more consecutive
34 months shall obtain no less than six (6) hours of training and instruction by
35 December 31 of each calendar year.

36 (B)(i) A member of a school district board of directors



1 elected for an initial or noncontinuous term shall obtain no less than nine
 2 (9) hours of training and instruction by December 31 of the calendar year
 3 following the year in which the member is elected.

4 (ii) The hours of training or instruction required
 5 under subdivision (a)(1)(B)(i) of this section shall include ~~training:~~

6 (a) Training or instruction on how to read and
 7 interpret an audit report under subdivision (a)(3)(A)(ii)(c) of this section;
 8 and

9 (b) Information regarding school safety and
 10 student discipline under subdivision (a)(3)(A)(iii) of this section.

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 12 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-13-629(a)(2)(A)-(C), concerning required
 13 training for school board members, are amended to read as follows:

14 (2)(A)(i) The superintendent of each school district shall
 15 annually prepare a report of the training hours each individual school board
 16 member received ~~the previous calendar year and those carried forward from a~~
 17 ~~previous year that were eligible to be counted towards the previous year~~ to
 18 be presented to the board at the board's regular January meeting.

19 (ii) The superintendent's report under subdivision
 20 (a)(2)(A)(i) of this section shall be presented in a table format with a row
 21 for each individual school board member that is followed by individual
 22 columns containing the following information:

23 (a) The number of training hours the school
 24 board member received between January 1 and December 31 of the previous year;

25 (b) The number of training hours carried
 26 forward from the previous year that were eligible to be counted towards the
 27 previous year;

28 (c) The sum of the number of training hours
 29 described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii)(a) of this section and the number of
 30 training hours described in subdivision (a)(2)(A)(ii)(b) of this section; and

31 (d) The total number of training hours the
 32 board member is required to receive under subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

33 (iii) The superintendent's report under subdivision
 34 (a)(2)(A)(i) of this section shall not include:

35 (a) Any training hours a board member receives
 36 after December 31 of the previous year; or

1 (b) The training hours a board member accrues
 2 under subdivision (a)(2)(B)(i) of this section.

3 (B) Members who fail to receive or carry forward the
 4 required number of training hours shall be:

5 (i) Permitted from January 1 through thirty (30)
 6 days ~~from~~ following the date of the January board meeting to complete the
 7 deficient training hours; and

8 (ii) Suspended from participating in official
 9 business, except for school board training, until the board member obtains
 10 the deficient training hours.

11 (C) A board member who fails to cure the board member's
 12 training hours deficiency ~~within the thirty (30) days provided in~~ during the
 13 time provided under subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section shall be removed
 14 from the board and the board member's position shall be filled in accordance
 15 with § 6-13-611 unless:

16 (i) The board member's failure to receive the
 17 required training during the time provided under subdivision (a)(2)(B) of
 18 this section was due to military service of the board member; or

19 (ii) The board member provides a written sworn
 20 statement from the board member's treating physician stating that the board
 21 member's failure to receive the required training during the time provided
 22 under subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section was due to a serious medical
 23 condition.

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 25 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-13-629(a)(3)(A)(iii), concerning training
 26 and instruction topics required for school board members, is amended to read
 27 as follows:

28 (iii)~~(a)~~ Information regarding school safety and
 29 student discipline.

30 ~~(b) A member shall be required to complete the~~
 31 ~~program in subdivision (a)(3)(A)(iii)(a) of this section only one (1) time.~~

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 34 **APPROVED: 3/1/21**