A Bill

For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT TO ADVANCE THE UNDERSTANDING OF PERSONAL
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AMONG PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS; TO
REQUIRE A COURSE IN PERSONAL FINANCE AS A REQUIREMENT
OF GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle
TO ADVANCE THE UNDERSTANDING OF PERSONAL
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AMONG PUBLIC SCHOOL
STUDENTS; TO REQUIRE A COURSE IN PERSONAL
FINANCE AS A REQUIREMENT OF GRADUATION
FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-16-135 is amended to read as follows:
6-16-135. Personal Economics and personal finance course content.
(a) The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department
of Workforce Education, subject to the approval of the State Board of Education, shall develop economics and
personal finance course content guidelines and recommend textbooks to be used
in an economics course or a personal finance course.
(b) The course content shall include, but not be limited to, household
budgets creation, checking accounts maintenance, basic consumer finance, debt
management, credit management, insurance, and taxes. By the 2015-2016 school
year, the course content guidelines for the economics credit required for
high school graduation shall include the following material concerning personal finance:

(1) Income, including without limitation:
   (A) Employment choices;
   (B) Employment benefits;
   (C) Purchasing power; and
   (D) Taxes;

(2) Money management, including without limitation:
   (A) Household budget creation;
   (B) Checking account maintenance;
   (C) Insurance; and
   (D) Charitable giving;

(3) Spending and credit, including without limitation:
   (A) Basic consumer finance;
   (B) Online commerce;
   (C) Identity fraud and theft;
   (D) Home ownership;
   (E) Debt management;
   (F) Credit management;
   (G) Bankruptcy; and
   (H) Consumer protection; and

(4) Saving and investing, including without limitation:
   (A) Methods of saving;
   (B) Methods of investing;
   (C) Planning for retirement;
   (D) Risk and return; and
   (E) Regulation of saving and investment.