

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

As Engrossed: S3/24/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 799

5 By: Senators Elliott, Madison, Salmon, H. Wilkins
6 By: Representatives Rainey, T. Baker, Blount, Carroll, L. Smith
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO INCREASE ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY
11 EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 TO INCREASE ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY
15 EDUCATION.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds that:

21 (1) There are children of undocumented immigrants who have lived
22 in Arkansas most of their lives;

23 (2) Most of these children have spent their formative years in
24 Arkansas elementary and secondary schools;

25 (3) Many of these children have proven their academic ability by
26 graduating from Arkansas high schools;

27 (4) Many of these children are precluded from accessing an
28 affordable college education because they do not qualify for in-state tuition
29 rates or state-supported scholarships;

30 (5) Educational opportunities should be offered to all children
31 so they may contribute to the future economic viability of Arkansas;

32 (6) There is a correlation between the number of residents with
33 a college degree and the economic health of the state;

34 (7) It is critical that Arkansas increase the number of
35 individuals living in the state that possess a college degree; and

36 (8) It is the charge of Congress to address any burdensome laws



1 or regulations that complicate the ability of the states to make
2 postsecondary education accessible to all young graduates.

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4 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 60, Subchapter 2 is amended
5 to add an additional section to read as follows:

6 6-60-214. Access to postsecondary education.

7 (a) This act shall be known as the "Access to Postsecondary Education
8 Act of 2009".

9 (b) Any tuition rate that is granted to residents of Arkansas shall be
10 granted on the same terms to all persons who have attended a secondary
11 educational institution in Arkansas for at least three (3) years and who have
12 either graduated from an Arkansas high school or received a general education
13 diploma in the state.

14 (c) In addition to the requirements under subdivision (b) of this
15 section, a student without documented immigration status shall file an
16 affidavit with the state-supported institution of higher education stating
17 that the student has an intent to legalize his or her immigration status.

18 (c) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall promulgate
19 rules necessary to implement this act.

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21 */s/ Elliott*
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