

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

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 799

4  
5 By: Senator Elliott  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO INCREASE ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY  
10 EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

### Subtitle

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

35 (8) It is the charge of Congress to address any burdensome laws  
36 or regulations that complicate the ability of the states to make



1 postsecondary education accessible to all young graduates.

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

5 6-60-214. Access to postsecondary education.

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

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

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

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

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