

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: S3/31/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 943

5 By: Senator Elliott
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO IMPROVE PARENTS' ACCESS TO PUBLIC
10 SCHOOL DATA ON ACHIEVEMENT GAPS AND ON PUBLIC
11 SCHOOL PLANS TO CLOSE ACHIEVEMENT GAPS; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

15 TO IMPROVE PARENTS' ACCESS TO PUBLIC
16 SCHOOL DATA ON ACHIEVEMENT GAPS AND ON
17 PUBLIC SCHOOL PLANS TO CLOSE ACHIEVEMENT
18 GAPS.
19
20

21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
22

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 22 is amended
24 to add an additional section to read as follows:

25 6-15-2202. Access to public school information on school improvement
26 plans.

27 (a) This section is intended to:

28 (1) Improve student achievement and close achievement gaps among
29 student subgroups by providing public access to comprehensive school
30 improvement plans;

31 (2) Improve parental involvement and communication with parents;

32 (3) Increase transparency and accountability of public schools
33 and public school districts to the public; and

34 (4) Make public school and public school district data more
35 accessible to researchers and policymakers.

36 (b) By the twentieth day following the date a public school or public



1 school district is required by law or rule to provide the applicable
2 information listed in this subsection (b), a public school district shall
3 post the most recent version of the following information on its website:

4 (1)(A) The comprehensive school improvement plan developed under
5 the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program
6 Act, § 6-15-401 et seq. for each public school in the public school district.

7 (B) A public school that accepts National School Lunch Act
8 funds and national school lunch student state categorical funding under § 6-
9 20-2305 shall report in the public school's comprehensive school improvement
10 plan the following:

11 (i) A description of how the public school plans to
12 use National School Lunch Act funds and national school lunch student state
13 categorical funds in the current school year; and

14 (ii) A description of how the school used National
15 School Lunch Act funds and national school lunch student state categorical
16 funds in the previous school year;

17 (2) The public school district's annual report card and the
18 annual report card of each public school in the public school district;

19 (3) A parent-friendly explanation of:

20 (A) The school improvement status of the public school
21 district;

22 (B) The school improvement status of each public school in
23 the public school district, including the identification of any supplemental
24 educational services available to each public school; and

25 (C) Why the public school district or any of its public
26 schools are under academic distress, school improvement, or fiscal distress
27 and what the district is doing to be removed from academic distress, school
28 improvement, or fiscal distress;

29 (4) The public school district's parental involvement plan and
30 the parental involvement plan of all public schools in the public school
31 district and informational packets required under § 6-15-1702 and under the
32 No Child Left Behind Act of 2001; and

33 (5) Teacher qualifications for all public schools in the public
34 school district under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

35 (c) Not less than annually, the department shall monitor compliance
36 with the requirements of this section when the department:

1 (1) Directly monitors a school for compliance with standards and
2 accreditation; or

3 (2) Assists a school with its comprehensive school improvement
4 plan.

5 (d)(1) The department shall report a failure to comply with this
6 section to the State Board of Education.

7 (2) The state board shall establish by rule that compliance with
8 this section is a requirement for accreditation of a public school or public
9 school district.

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36

/s/ Elliott