

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: S3/18/15 S3/26/15

2 90th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2015

SENATE BILL 858

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5 By: Senator E. Cheatham

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE

9

ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING PUBLIC EDUCATION; AND FOR

10

OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF

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TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING

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PUBLIC EDUCATION.

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

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21 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-431, concerning academic distress*

22 *rules, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:*

23 *(c) The state board may adopt by rule, criteria that permit the*
24 *following entities to be exempt from the identification and classification of*
25 *academic distress:*

26 *(1) A public school that is designated solely as an alternative*
27 *learning environment;*

28 *(2) An open-enrollment public charter school whose mission and*
29 *enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high*
30 *school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of schools;*

31 *(3) A conversion public charter school whose mission and*
32 *enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high*
33 *school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of school;*

34 *(4) The Arkansas School for the Blind; and*

35 *(5) The Arkansas School for the Deaf.*

36 *(d) The criteria adopted by the state board under subsection (c) of*



1 this section shall include the method to measure student academic performance
2 for a student that attends an entity identified under subsection (c) of this
3 section to meet the requirements of state or federal law or regulation.

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5 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2106, concerning school rating system
6 rules, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

7 (c) The state board may adopt by rule, criteria that permit the
8 following entities to be exempt from the identification and classification of
9 academic distress:

10 (1) A public school that is designated solely as an alternative
11 learning environment;

12 (2) An open-enrollment public charter school whose mission and
13 enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high
14 school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of schools,

15 (3) A conversion public charter school whose mission and
16 enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high
17 school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of school;

18 (4) The Arkansas School for the Blind; and

19 (5) The Arkansas School for the Deaf.

20 (d) The criteria adopted by the state board under subsection (c) of
21 this section shall include the method to measure student academic performance
22 for a student that attends an entity identified under subsection (c) of this
23 section to meet the requirements of state or federal law or regulation.

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25 /s/E. Cheatham
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