

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1955

5 By: Representative Cozart
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
9 CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS OPPORTUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOL
10 CHOICE ACT; TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
11 CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT OF 2015; AND
12 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
16 CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS OPPORTUNITY
17 PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT; AND TO AMEND
18 PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
19 CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT
20 OF 2015.
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(1), concerning the provision of
27 information concerning the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act, is
28 amended to read as follows:

29 (1)(1) A district under the public school choice program under this
30 section shall request public service announcements to be made over the
31 broadcast media and in the print media at such times and in such a manner as
32 to inform parents or guardians of students in adjoining districts of the
33 availability of the program under this section, the application deadline, and
34 the requirements and procedure for nonresident students to participate in the
35 program under this section.

36 (2)(A) Each public school district and public school, as



1 applicable, shall create a policy stating the method by which a parent or
 2 legal guardian may submit an application for the opportunity public school
 3 choice option under this section, including without limitation:

4 (i) Regular mail;

5 (ii) Email; and

6 (iii) Hand delivery.

7 (B) A public school district and public school, as
 8 applicable, shall not require a parent, legal guardian, or person standing in
 9 loco parentis to file an application in person.

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 11 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1905(e)(1), concerning notification of
 12 acceptance or rejection of an application for transfer under the Public
 13 School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

14 (e)(1)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (e)(4) of this section, by
 15 July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to enroll in a
 16 nonresident district under this subchapter, the superintendent of the
 17 nonresident district shall notify the parent or legal guardian and the
 18 resident district in writing as to whether the student's application has been
 19 accepted or rejected.

20 (B) If the parent or guardian of the student has applied
 21 to attend a school within the student's resident district, the resident
 22 district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student in writing as to
 23 whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected by July 1.

24 (C) For each application received under subdivision
 25 (a)(2)(B) of this section, the nonresident district or resident district
 26 shall notify the parent or guardian of the student in writing as to whether
 27 the student's application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15)
 28 calendar days of the application being received.