

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H2/14/23 H2/23/23 S3/16/23

2 94th General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2023

HOUSE BILL 1030

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5 By: Representative S. Meeks

6 By: Senator J. English

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT CONCERNING AGE AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR

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ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS; TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF

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INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL BE OPEN AND

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FREE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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CONCERNING AGE AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

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FOR ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND TO

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EXPAND THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL BE OPEN AND FREE.

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

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SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-202(b)(1) and (2), concerning the

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individuals for whom public schools of any school district in the State of

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Arkansas shall be open and free, are amended to read as follows:

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(b)(1) The public schools of any school district in this state shall

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be open and free through completion of the secondary program to all persons

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in this state between five (5) and twenty-one (21) years of age ~~whose:~~

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(A) Whose parent, legal guardian, person having lawful

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control of the person, or person standing in loco parentis resides within the

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school district; ~~and to all persons between those ages who~~

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(B) Who have been legally transferred to the school

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district for education purposes.

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(2) For purposes of this section, a student may use the

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residential address of a legal guardian, person having legal, lawful control



1 of the student under order of a court, or person standing in loco parentis
2 only if the ~~student~~;

3 (A) Student resides at the same residential address; and
4 ~~if the guardianship~~

5 (B)(i) Guardianship or other legal authority of the
6 student is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance
7 purposes.

8 (ii) However, subdivision (b)(2)(B)(i) of this
9 section shall not apply to a host family of an international exchange student
10 placed by an international student exchange visitor placement organization
11 under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization
12 Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.

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14 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-202(g), concerning age and residence
15 for attending public schools and students' ability to participate in the
16 Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to add an additional subsection
17 to read as follows:

18 (g) This section shall not be construed to restrict a student's
19 ability to ~~participate~~;

20 (1) Participate in a tuition agreement with a nonresident school
21 district; ~~or to officially~~

22 (2) Officially transfer to another school district pursuant to
23 the Public School Choice Act of 2015, § 6-18-1901 et seq.; or

24 (3) Attend school as an international exchange student placed
25 with a host family by an international student exchange visitor placement
26 organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement
27 Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.

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29 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 2, is amended
30 to add an additional section to read as follows:

31 6-18-234. Attendance of international exchange student – Required –
32 Definitions.

33 (a) As used in this section:

34 (1) "Host family" means the individual or family with whom an
35 international exchange student is placed by an international student exchange
36 visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange

1 Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.; and

2 (2) "International exchange student" means a student who is
3 placed with a host family by an international student exchange visitor
4 placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor
5 Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.

6 (b) A public school in the public school district in which a host
7 family resides shall admit for enrollment and attendance at the public school
8 an international exchange student who has been placed with the host family.

9 (c) A public school district that admits an international exchange
10 student may:

11 (1)(A) Upon his or her arrival, require the international
12 exchange student to submit to quarantine to prevent the spread of infectious
13 diseases as may be necessary.

14 (B) A quarantine required under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of
15 this section shall not exceed seven (7) days unless otherwise recommended by
16 the Department of Health or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

17 (2) Expel or suspend the international exchange student from the
18 public school based on a:

19 (A) Violation of the school district's written student
20 discipline policies, as required under § 6-18-507; or

21 (B) Danger that the international exchange student
22 presents to the students attending and individuals employed by the school
23 district; and

24 (3)(A) Establish a limit on the total number of international
25 exchange students each public school within the public school district may
26 accept for enrollment in each public school.

27 (B) A limit established for a public school under
28 subdivision (c)(3)(A) of this section shall be no fewer than one (1)
29 international exchange student per fifty (50) students enrolled in the public
30 school in which the international exchange student intends to enroll
31 according to the school's average daily membership in the school year
32 immediately preceding the current school year.

33 (d) A public school district shall have the option of whether or not
34 to:

35 (1)(A) Include test results achieved by an international
36 exchange student enrolled in the public school district in state-mandated

1 assessments.

2 (B) A public school district shall include or exclude the
3 test results achieved by each international exchange student enrolled in the
4 public school as a group; and

5 (2) Provide English-language services.

6 (e) Before a public school district is required to accept an
7 international exchange student under this section, the public school district
8 may require the international student exchange visitor placement organization
9 under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization
10 Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq., that is placing the international
11 exchange student to:

12 (1) Be certified by the Council on Standards for International
13 Educational Travel;

14 (2) Provide documented proof of the international exchange
15 student's English proficiency; and

16 (3) Notify the public school district at least three (3) weeks
17 before the beginning of the academic semester in which the international
18 exchange student is planning to enroll in the public school district.

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20 /s/S. Meeks
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