

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999
4

As Engrossed: H3/1/99 H3/3/99 S3/18/99

A Bill

Act 1083 of 1999
HOUSE BILL 1620

5 By: Representatives Ferrell, *Madison, C. Johnson*
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7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO COORDINATE DISTANCE LEARNING IN THE STATE;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

13 "TO COORDINATE DISTANCE LEARNING IN THE
14 STATE. "

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16
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. (a) The Department of Education shall oversee and
20 coordinate the implementation of distance learning in elementary and secondary
21 public schools in the state. Distance learning shall be available to one
22 hundred (100) elementary and secondary public schools in the state by August
23 1, 2000. Distance learning shall be available to all school districts in the
24 state by August 1, 2004.

25 (b) The Department of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations
26 establishing appropriate adult supervision.

27 (c) The elementary or secondary school may import courses from outside
28 the state; however, the course curriculum shall be approved by the Department
29 of Education prior to offering the courses through distance learning.

30 (d) The courses offered through distance learning shall include but not
31 be limited to:

32 (1) College preparatory courses, including, but not limited to
33 calculus, physics, Arkansas history, foreign language courses, and computer
34 science; and

35 (2) Technological courses, including, but not limited to advanced
36 math and science courses, advanced computer skills courses, and advanced

1 courses in the arts.

2 (e) The Department of Education shall work with the Arkansas School for
3 Mathematics and Sciences, the Arkansas Educational Television Commission, the
4 Education Service Cooperatives, and other state agencies involved in distance
5 learning in implementing distance learning.

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7 SECTION 2. The Department of Higher Education shall oversee and
8 coordinate the implementation of distance learning in two (2) year colleges,
9 four (4) year institutions of higher learning and universities in the state.
10 The Department of Workforce Education shall cooperate with the Department of
11 Higher Education in implementing the provisions of this section.

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13 SECTION 3. (a) The Department of Education and the Department of
14 Higher Education shall work together to implement distance learning throughout
15 the state.

16 (b) The Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education
17 shall present a report to the House Interim Committee on Education and the
18 Senate Interim Committee on Education by December 31, 1999 reporting the
19 status and progress of distance learning in Arkansas.

20 (c) The Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education
21 shall not be required to implement the provisions of this Act if funds are not
22 made available.

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24 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
25 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
26 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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28 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
29 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
30 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
31 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
32 act are declared to be severable.

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34 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
35 hereby repealed.

36 /s/ Ferrel

APPROVED: 4/5/1999