

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 83rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2001  
4

# A Bill

Act 537 of 2001  
HOUSE BILL 1633

5 By: Representative Magnus  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE GOVERNOR' S PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL  
10 AND THE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM; AND  
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12

## Subtitle

13 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE GOVERNOR' S  
14 PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL AND THE INTERVENTION  
15 AND PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM.  
16  
17  
18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
20

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 5, Subchapter 6 is repealed.

22 ~~6-5-601. Legislative intent.~~

23 ~~The General Assembly finds that:~~

24 ~~(1) Growing numbers of children live in conditions that place~~  
25 ~~them at risk of school failure;~~

26 ~~(2) The provision of school and support services to these~~  
27 ~~children and their families by public and nonprofit agencies is fragmented and~~  
28 ~~does not prepare these children to learn effectively and have a successful~~  
29 ~~school experience;~~

30 ~~(3) The lack of collaboration among schools, families, local~~  
31 ~~agencies, and other groups involved in family support and youth development~~  
32 ~~activities results in the inefficient and ineffective use of resources to meet~~  
33 ~~the needs of these children;~~

34 ~~(4) Schools are dedicating an increasing amount of their time and~~  
35 ~~resources to responding to disruptive and violent behavior rather than~~  
36 ~~fulfilling their mission to challenge with high expectations each child to~~

1 ~~learn, to achieve, and to fulfill his or her potential;~~

2 ~~(5) The relationships among school failure, disruptive and~~  
3 ~~violent behavior in schools, unemployment, and criminal behavior are clear;~~

4 ~~(6) The continued failure to overcome the causes of school~~  
5 ~~failure and criminal behavior has caused the unacceptable dependency on costly~~  
6 ~~long-term social programs and the criminal justice system;~~

7 ~~(7) Responding to the needs of students who are at risk of school~~  
8 ~~failure and providing for a safe and secure learning environment are cost-~~  
9 ~~effective because they enable the state to substitute preventive measures for~~  
10 ~~expensive crisis intervention;~~

11 ~~(8) Differing local needs and local resources necessitate the~~  
12 ~~development of locally generated, community based plans that coordinate and~~  
13 ~~leverage existing resources, not the imposition of uniform and inflexible,~~  
14 ~~state-mandated plans; and~~

15 ~~(9) The Governor is appointing a Governor's Partnership Council~~  
16 ~~on Children and Families, a collaborative composed of the Director of the~~  
17 ~~Department of Education, the Director of the Department of Health, and the~~  
18 ~~Director of the Department of Human Services, with representatives of local~~  
19 ~~private nonprofit organizations, school districts, the justice system,~~  
20 ~~parents, and businesses. This council is appropriate to serve as the review~~  
21 ~~and approval entity for the Intervention and Prevention Grant Program for~~  
22 ~~Arkansas School Children.~~

23  
24 ~~6-5-602. Established Purpose.~~

25 ~~(a) There is established the "Intervention and Prevention Grant Program~~  
26 ~~for Arkansas School Children".~~

27 ~~(b) The purpose of the program is to provide grants to local community~~  
28 ~~partnerships for locally designed innovative local programs that target~~  
29 ~~juvenile crime by:~~

30 ~~(1) Enhancing educational attainment through coordinated services~~  
31 ~~to respond to the needs of students who are at risk of school failure and at~~  
32 ~~risk of participation in juvenile crime; and~~

33 ~~(2) Providing for a safe and secure learning environment.~~

34  
35 ~~6-5-603. Administration of the grant program.~~

36 ~~(a) The Governor's Partnership Council on Children and Families shall~~

1 ~~administer the grant program.~~

2 ~~(b) The Department of Education, the Department of Health, and the~~  
 3 ~~Department of Human Services shall provide technical assistance to grant~~  
 4 ~~applicants and recipients.~~

5  
 6 ~~6-5-604. Cooperation of state and local agencies.~~

7 ~~(a) All agencies of the state and local governments, including~~  
 8 ~~departments of social services, health departments, local mental health,~~  
 9 ~~mental retardation, and substance abuse authorities, court personnel, law~~  
 10 ~~enforcement agencies, state-supported institutions of higher learning, the~~  
 11 ~~community college system, and cities and counties shall cooperate with the~~  
 12 ~~Governor's Partnership Council on Children and Families, local boards of~~  
 13 ~~education, and local community partnerships that receive grants in~~  
 14 ~~coordinating the program at the state level and in implementing the program at~~  
 15 ~~the local level.~~

16 ~~(b) The Director of the Department of Education, the Director of the~~  
 17 ~~Department of Health, and the Director of the Department of Human Services~~  
 18 ~~shall develop a plan for ensuring the cooperation of state agencies and local~~  
 19 ~~agencies and encouraging the cooperation of private entities, especially those~~  
 20 ~~receiving state funds, in the coordination and implementation of the program.~~

21  
 22 ~~6-5-605. Applications for grants.~~

23 ~~(a) A local community partnership may apply for grant funds. Such~~  
 24 ~~partnership shall include representation of at least one (1) school district~~  
 25 ~~and may include existing educational service cooperatives, multiple school~~  
 26 ~~districts, multiple counties, or regional school districts.~~

27 ~~(b) The local community partnership may be a current entity or an~~  
 28 ~~entity organized for the purpose of this grant program.~~

29 ~~(c) The local community partnership shall hold public hearings on the~~  
 30 ~~application for grant funds. During these hearings, the local community~~  
 31 ~~partnerships shall accept comments regarding the applications for grant funds~~  
 32 ~~from parents, the judiciary, businesses, community organizations, and~~  
 33 ~~representatives from the participating school districts and the local~~  
 34 ~~departments of health and human services.~~

35 ~~(d) The Governor's Partnership Council on Children and Families will~~  
 36 ~~develop application guidelines and requirements. The guidelines will require~~

1 that grant applicants prepare a plan that shall include establishment or  
2 expansion of existing program models, which may include the following, as well  
3 as other innovative locally or regionally developed programs:-

- 4 (1) ~~School Based Resource Center Model;~~
- 5 (2) ~~After School Program Model;~~
- 6 (3) ~~Cities in Schools and Families First Program Model;~~
- 7 (4) ~~Alternative Learning Program Model;~~ and-
- 8 (5) ~~Safe Schools Program Model.~~

9  
10 ~~6-5-606. Review of applications.~~

11 (a) ~~The Governor's Partnership Council on Children and Families will be~~  
12 ~~responsible for review and approval of grant applications.~~

13 (b) ~~In reviewing grant applications, the partnership council shall~~  
14 ~~consider the demographic profile of the applicants, including, but not limited~~  
15 ~~to:-~~

- 16 (1) ~~The prevalence of underserved students and families in low-~~  
17 ~~income neighborhoods and in isolated rural areas in the area for which the~~  
18 ~~grant is requested;~~
- 19 (2) ~~The severity of the local problems with regard to children at~~  
20 ~~risk of school failure and with regard to school discipline;~~
- 21 (3) ~~The prevalence of juvenile crime;~~
- 22 (4) ~~Whether the proposed program meets state standards; and-~~
- 23 (5) ~~The likelihood that the locally designed plan will deal with~~  
24 ~~the problems effectively.~~

25 (c) ~~During the review process, the partnership council may recommend~~  
26 ~~modifications in grant applications to applicants.~~

27  
28 ~~6-5-607. Requests for modifications of grants or for additional funds to~~  
29 ~~implement grants.~~

30 (a) ~~A grant recipient may request a modification of a grant or~~  
31 ~~additional funds to implement a grant through the grant application process.~~

32 (b) ~~The request shall be reviewed and accepted or rejected in the same~~  
33 ~~manner as a grant application.~~

34  
35 ~~6-5-608. Program evaluation — Reporting requirements.~~

36 (a) ~~The Governor's Partnership Council on Children and Families shall~~

1 ~~develop and implement an evaluation system that will assess the efficiency and~~  
2 ~~effectiveness of the Intervention and Prevention Grant Program for Arkansas~~  
3 ~~School Children. This system shall be designed to:~~

4 ~~(1) Provide information to the partnership council and to the~~  
5 ~~General Assembly on how to improve and refine the programs;~~

6 ~~(2) Enable the partnership council and the General Assembly to~~  
7 ~~assess the overall quality, efficiency, and impact of the existing programs;~~

8 ~~(3) Enable the partnership council and the General Assembly to~~  
9 ~~determine whether to modify the Intervention and Prevention Grant Program for~~  
10 ~~Arkansas School Children; and~~

11 ~~(4) Provide a detailed fiscal analysis of how state funds for~~  
12 ~~these programs were used.~~

13 ~~(b) The partnership council shall present a report annually to the~~  
14 ~~House and Senate Interim Committees on Education on the implementation of the~~  
15 ~~program and the distribution of funds pursuant to this program.~~

16  
17 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 6-11-108 is repealed.

18 ~~6-11-108. Employment of personnel.~~

19 ~~(a) The State Board of Education, in addition to other duties~~  
20 ~~prescribed by law, shall select personnel as may be needed for the efficient~~  
21 ~~operation of the Department of Education and shall fix their salaries in~~  
22 ~~accordance with their training and the work assigned.~~

23 ~~(b) Appointments of full-time employees in the department shall be made~~  
24 ~~by the board upon nomination by the Director of the Department of Education.~~

25 ~~(c) Upon rejection of a nominee, the director shall make further~~  
26 ~~nominations.~~

27 ~~(d) Professional appointments in the department shall be made for~~  
28 ~~definite terms of one (1) year, subject to removal for cause by a majority~~  
29 ~~vote of the members of the board upon recommendation of the director.~~

30  
31 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 25-1-105(g)(7), pertaining to annual reports,  
32 is repealed:

33 ~~(7) Governor's Partnership Council on Children and Families, § 6-~~  
34 ~~5-601;~~

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36 APPROVED: 3/01/2001