

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: S3/21/11

A Bill

SENATE BILL 740

5 By: Senators S. Flowers, G. Baker, Bledsoe, Bookout, Burnett, L. Chesterfield, Crumbly, J. Dismang,
6 Elliott, Files, Fletcher, S. Harrelson, Hendren, Holland, J. Hutchinson, Irvin, G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, D.
7 Johnson, J. Key, M. Lamoureux, Laverty, Luker, Madison, P. Malone, B. Pritchard, Rapert, Salmon, B.
8 Sample, J. Taylor, Teague, R. Thompson, Whitaker, E. Williams, D. Wyatt
9 By: Representatives Cheatham, Allen, D. Altes, T. Bradford, Carnine, Hall, Harris, D. Hutchinson,
10 Leding, Lindsey, B. Wilkins, H. Wilkins, Woods
11

For An Act To Be Entitled

12 AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SCHOOL
13 DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLANS; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.
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16
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Subtitle

18 TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SCHOOL
19 DISTRICT PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLANS.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1704 is amended to read as follows:

26 6-15-1704. Annual review of parental involvement plans ~~– Monitoring.~~

27 (a) ~~Beginning on October 1, 2004, and by each October 1 thereafter~~
28 Annually by October 1, every school district shall review and update the
29 school district's parental involvement plan and:

30 (1) ~~file~~ File a copy of the plan with the Department of
31 Education; ~~and~~

32 (2) Place a copy of the plan on the school district's website.

33 (b)(1)(A) The department shall:

34 (i) ~~review~~ Review each plan; ~~and~~

35 (ii) ~~determine~~ Determine whether the plan is in
36 compliance with provisions of this subchapter; and



1 (iii) shall indicate Indicate on the school's
 2 performance report under § 6-15-1402 whether or not the school district is in
 3 compliance with this subchapter.

4 (B) Periodically on a rotating schedule, the department
 5 shall monitor each school district's plan to:

6 (i) Evaluate whether the school district is
 7 implementing its plan and the implementation's effectiveness; and

8 (ii) Assess the areas in which a school district
 9 needs to revise its plan or its implementation of the plan.

10 (C) The department shall place priority for monitoring
 11 under subdivision (b)(1)(B) of this section on school districts that have
 12 been identified as being in:

13 (i) School improvement for two (2) consecutive
 14 school years; or

15 (ii) Academic distress.

16 ~~(2) If the department determines that a school district is not in~~
 17 ~~compliance with §§ 6-15-1701—6-15-1703, the department shall send the~~
 18 ~~school district written notification indicating any deficiencies in the~~
 19 ~~school district's plan no later than January 1 of each year and allow the~~
 20 ~~school district an opportunity to correct any deficiency. By January 1 of~~
 21 ~~each year, the department shall provide any recommendations in writing to a~~
 22 ~~school district:~~

23 (A) Concerning areas of noncompliance with §§ 6-15-1701 –
 24 6-15-1703; or

25 (B) As a result of the department's monitoring under
 26 (b)(1)(B).

27 (3) The department shall allow the school district an
 28 opportunity to implement the department's recommendations.

29 (4) The State Board of Education shall incorporate the
 30 provisions of this subsection into its rules for parental involvement plans.

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 32 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1703 is amended to read as follows:

33 6-15-1703. ~~Staff~~ Professional development.

34 (a) The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of
 35 Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require:

36 (1) ~~No fewer than two~~ Two (2) ~~or more~~ or more hours of professional

1 development ~~opportunities for teachers, which may be included in the~~ as part
2 of the annual minimum number of hours of professional development required,
3 designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement
4 strategies; and

5 (2) ~~No fewer than three~~ Three (3) or more hours of professional
6 development ~~opportunities for administrators, which may be included in the~~ as
7 part of the annual minimum number of hours of professional development
8 required, designed to enhance understanding of:

9 (A) Effective parent involvement strategies; and

10 (B) The importance of administrative leadership in setting
11 expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

12 (b) The Department of Education shall provide the professional
13 development required under this section.

14 (c) Each school district shall provide training at least annually for
15 volunteers who assist in an instructional program for parents.

16
17 /s/S. Flowers

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20 **APPROVED: 04/01/2011**