

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023  
4

As Engrossed: S3/28/23

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 384

5 By: Senators D. Wallace, L. Chesterfield  
6 By: Representative Joey Carr  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE  
10 INSTRUCTION ON ADOPTION AWARENESS; AND FOR OTHER  
11 PURPOSES.  
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### Subtitle

14 TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE  
15 INSTRUCTION ON ADOPTION AWARENESS.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 1, is amended  
22 to add an additional section to read as follows:

23 6-16-156. Adoption awareness education – Instruction required.

24 (a)(1) Beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, each public school in  
25 the state shall provide instruction on adoption awareness to students  
26 enrolled in grades six through twelve (6-12) at the public school for a  
27 period of time not to exceed one (1) hour during each school year.

28 (2)(A) A public school shall provide the one (1) hour of  
29 adoption awareness instruction required under subdivision (a)(1) of this  
30 section at the beginning of each school year.

31 (B) A public school may require that the adoption  
32 awareness instruction required under subdivision (a)(1) of this section is  
33 provided:

34 (i) During a regular class period; or

35 (ii) At a special event organized for purposes of  
36 providing the required adoption awareness instruction.



1           (b) The State Board of Education shall develop curricula, standards,  
2 materials, and units relating to adoption awareness instruction required by  
3 subsection (a) of this section.

4           (c) Adoption awareness instruction required by subsection (a) of this  
5 section shall include without limitation:

6                   (1) The benefits of adoption to society;

7                   (2) The types of adoption available;

8                   (3) The difference between adoption through the foster care  
9 system and private adoption;

10                   (4) The reasons adoption is preferable to abortion;

11                   (5) Public and private resources and agencies available to  
12 assist in the adoption process;

13                   (6) Statistical data on abortion, adoption, and childbirth;

14                   (7) Public and private resources available for pregnant mothers  
15 and parents enrolled in a public school; and

16                   (8) A description of child and human development.

17           (d) A public school shall provide any information provided to students  
18 under this section that was in written form to the parent, legal guardian, or  
19 person standing in loco parentis to a pregnant student who is enrolled in the  
20 public school.

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22   /s/D. Wallace

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25   **APPROVED: 4/11/23**