

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1775

5 By: Representative Vaught
6 By: Senator C. Tucker
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE UNIFORM
10 ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE POLICY ACT; TO AMEND THE LAW
11 CONCERNING SICK LEAVE; TO CREATE FOSTER CARE LEAVE;
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE UNIFORM
16 ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE POLICY ACT; TO AMEND
17 THE LAW CONCERNING SICK LEAVE; AND TO
18 CREATE FOSTER CARE LEAVE.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-4-206(b), concerning sick leave and when
25 sick leave will be granted, is amended to add an additional subdivision to
26 read as follows:

27 (3) As used in subdivision (b)(2) of this section, "child"
28 includes a child in foster care who has been placed in the home of the
29 employee.
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31 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 4, Subchapter 2, is amended
32 to add an additional section to read as follows:

33 21-4-218. Foster care leave – When granted – Definition.

34 (a) As used in this section, "child" means a person who is eighteen
35 (18) years of age or younger.

36 (b)(1) Except for an employee employed in a position included under



1 subsection (e) of this section, each employee is eligible for forty (40)
2 hours per calendar year of foster care leave with pay when a child in foster
3 care has been placed in the home of the employee.

4 (2) No more than forty (40) hours of foster care leave with pay
5 shall be used in a calendar year even if multiple children are placed in the
6 home of the employee at different times.

7 (c) Foster care leave with pay may be granted for the following
8 purposes:

9 (1) Bonding with the child and for adjustment purposes;

10 (2) Attending school placement meetings related to changes due
11 to foster care placement;

12 (3) Attending individualized educational program meetings
13 related to changes due to foster care placement;

14 (4) Attending required court hearings; and

15 (5) Attending required case-planning activities.

16 (d) The employee shall be required to provide his or her state agency
17 with documentation regarding the placement of the child in foster care.

18 (e) Foster care leave with pay shall not be granted to:

19 (1) An emergency, intermittent, probationary, or extra-help
20 employee; or

21 (2) An employee who is eligible for catastrophic leave for
22 maternity purposes for the placement of an infant under one (1) year of age
23 under § 21-4-214.

24 (f) Foster care leave with pay that is granted under this section:

25 (1) That is unused shall not be carried over to the next
26 calendar year; and

27 (2) Is not compensable to the employee upon termination or
28 retirement.

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30 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Contingent effectiveness.

31 Section 21-4-218(e)(2), as set out in Section 1 of this act, shall be
32 effective only if this act and SB426 of the regular session of the Ninety-
33 Fourth General Assembly becomes law.

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35 APPROVED: 4/12/23