

SENATE AMENDMENT 1 TO hb1501.

deleting lines 5 through 17 on page 3 and substituting therefor the following:

"(b) The board shall assist local school districts in the establishment of career majors built upon a solid academic core curriculum that incorporates workplace skills. The board shall provide direction, leadership, and technical assistance in the improvement of workforce education activities to the state s public school, technical education, and adult education providers.

(c) The board shall develop a strategic plan for an integrated system for workforce and adult education to address the needs of the existing workforce, the emerging workforce, and the transitional workforce. The board will develop criteria for the periodic assessment of the workforce education system for the purpose of continuous improvement of workforce and adult education activities; shall coordinate federal initiatives regarding workforce and adult education; identify and promote model programs that reflect good practice; and establish criteria for the development of a coordinated system of workforce education and adult education efforts on a regional basis.

(d) The board shall develop and monitor a state plan for vocational and technical education which shall include the establishment of at least one (1) area vocational center in each educational service cooperative area and in Pulaski County. All policy issues affecting the public schools will be developed by the board after consultation with the State Board of Education and implemented in coordination with the Department of Education and/or the education service cooperatives.

(e) Other continuing purposes shall include the following: explore methods to enhance coordination of workforce education and adult education programs that cross multiple state agency authorities; seek ways to enhance public and private educational partnerships; provide an informational forum to facilitate discussion among and between the public and private providers of workforce education and adult education; and provide advice and direction to the state agencies that are involved in workforce development in order to better serve the citizens of Arkansas."

and

by deleting "(d)" from line 18 on page 3 and substituting therefor "(f)"

and

by deleting line 30 on page 3 and substituting therefor the following:

"Transfer under Arkansas Code 25-2-106.

(c) The Arkansas Rehabilitation Services as an agency responsible to the State Board of Workforce Education and Career Opportunities and as a part of the Department of Workforce Education shall function as an agency in accordance with Act 574 of 1993, which

is the enabling legislation that transferred Arkansas Rehabilitation Services to the Department of Education, Vocational and Technical Education Division, and addresses the mission, authority and responsibilities of Arkansas Rehabilitation Services. This act shall assure that Arkansas Rehabilitation Services functions organizationally at a level at least equal to that of any division or entity of the Department of Workforce Education."

and

by appropriately relettering the subsequent subsections of Section 4