

Hall of the House of Representatives

86th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2007

Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2481

"AN ACT TO BE KNOWN AS THE VIRTUAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT OF 2007."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2481.

Amend House Bill No. 2481 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 11 and 12 and substitute the following:

"TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT;"

AND

Page 1, delete the subtitle in its entirety and substitute the following:

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE ARKANSAS FAMILIES WITH AN ALTERNATIVE FOR ACCESSING EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT."

AND

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-47-403 is amended to read as follows:
6-47-403. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(1) "Blended school" means a program offered by a public school district or charter school in which students receive curriculum instruction on-site for a designated period of time and receive instruction in a virtual or remote setting via Internet-based curriculum;

~~(1) "Board" means the State Board of Education;~~

~~(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education;~~

~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Education;~~

~~(4)~~(2) "Distance learning" means an interactive telecommunications system that utilizes information technology, audio, video, and similar technological elements, is compatible with other distance learning networks, and is used for the purpose of enhancing instructional opportunities in Arkansas public schools;

~~(5)~~(3) "Infrastructure" means an interlinked system of wires, cables, fiber optics, or other wireline or wireless communications media;

~~(6)~~(4) "Program" means the Arkansas Distance Learning Development Project; and

~~(7)~~(5) "Public telecommunications" means the facilities used in providing telecommunication services to the public, including, but not



limited to, facilities owned and operated by public utilities.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-47-406(g), concerning distance learning in public schools and open-enrollment charter schools, is amended to read as follows:

(g)(1) ~~No public school district or open-enrollment charter school shall establish or provide a virtual school or distance learning course except as allowed by this section~~ A public school district or an open-enrollment charter school may offer a blended school program.

(2) The state board shall establish rules for approving online curriculum and providers."

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative Harris

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Chief Clerk