

Hall of the House of Representatives

86th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2007

Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 2663

"THE CONTINUING ADEQUACY EVALUATION ACT OF 2007."

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 2663.

Amend House Bill No. 2663 as originally introduced:

Add Representatives Abernathy and Cook as cosponsors of the bill

AND

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2102, concerning the General Assembly's duties for conducting a continuing evaluation of the state's system of public education, is amended to add additional subsections to read as follows:

(f) The study for subdivisions (a)(1)-(4) of this section shall be accomplished by:

(1) Reviewing a report prepared by the Division of Legislative Audit compiling all funding received by public schools for each program;

(2) Reviewing the curriculum frameworks developed by the Department of Education;

(3) Reviewing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program, § 6-15-401 et seq.;

(4) Reviewing fiscal, academic, and facilities distress programs;

(5) Reviewing the state's standing under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C.S. § 6301 et seq.;

(6) Reviewing the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan process; and

(7) Reviewing the specific programs identified for further study by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education.

(g)(1) The study for subdivision (a)(5) of this section shall be accomplished by comparing the average teacher salary in Arkansas with surrounding states and Southern Regional Education Board member states, including without limitation:

(A) Comparing teacher salaries as adjusted by a cost of living index or a comparative wage index;

(B) Reviewing the minimum teacher compensation salary



schedule; and

(C) Reviewing any related topics identified for further study by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education.

(2) Depending on the availability of National Education Association data on teacher salaries in other states, the teacher salary comparison may be prepared as a supplement to the report after September 1.

(h) The study for subdivision (a)(6) of this section shall be accomplished by reviewing:

(1) Expenditures from:

(A) Isolated school funding;

(B) National school lunch student funding;

(C) Declining enrollment funding;

(D) Student growth funding;

(E) Special education funding;

(2) Disparities in teacher salaries; and

(3) Any related topics identified for further study by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education.

(i) The study for subdivision (a)(7) of this section shall be accomplished by:

(1) Completing an expenditure analysis and resource allocation review each biennium; and

(2) Reviewing any related topics identified for further study by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education.

(j) The study for subdivision (a)(8) of this section shall be accomplished by:

(1) Using evidence-based research as the basis for recalibrating as necessary the state's system of funding public education;

(2) Adjusting for the inflation or deflation of any appropriate component of the system of funding public education every two (2) years; and

(3) Reviewing any related topics identified for further study by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2104, concerning the report of the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education regarding the study of the adequacy of the state's system of public education, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The report shall be supplemented as needed to accomplish the purposes of this continuing evaluation.

SECTION 3. NOT TO BE CODIFIED. The purpose of this act is to strengthen and preserve the integrity of the Continuing Adequacy Evaluation Act of 2004, Arkansas Code § 10-3-2101 et seq., by further defining its provisions to ensure that future assessments, evaluations, and monitoring of the state's public education system by the General Assembly will continue to be conducted in a thorough, well-informed and meaningful manner."

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative Kenney

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Chief Clerk