

ARKANSAS SENATE
90th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2015
Amendment Form

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1663

TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING AMOUNTS; TO ESTABLISH ENHANCED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

Amendment No. 1 to House Bill No. 1663

Amend House Bill No. 1663 as originally introduced:

Page 1, line 10, delete "TO"

AND

Page 1, line 11, delete "ESTABLISH ENHANCED TRANSPORTATION FUNDING;"

AND

Page 1, line 18 delete "TO ESTABLISH ENHANCED

AND

Page 1, line 19, delete "TRANSPORTATION FUNDING;"

AND

Delete section 6 of the bill in its entirety and substitute the following:

"SECTION 6. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) It is the duty of the state to provide a general, suitable, and efficient system of free public schools to the children of the state under Arkansas Constitution Article 14, § 1;

(2) The General Assembly is obligated to ensure that an adequate and equitable system of education is provided;

(3) Student transportation may be a necessary component for providing a student with an equitable opportunity for an adequate education to the extent that a student would not otherwise be able to realize this opportunity but for transportation being provided by the state;

(4) Analyzing the portion of student transportation funding is required for adequacy purposes and is a highly complex, fact-intensive study that requires the analysis of many factors such as student characteristics,



bus routes, route miles, and a variety of other factors;

(5)(A) In "A Report on Legislative Hearings for the 2014 Interim Study on Education Adequacy", the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education found that transportation funding should continue to be funded at the same levels for the 2016 and 2017 fiscal years.

(B) The House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education also recommended the creation of a separate supplemental transportation funding program for school districts with high transportation costs to be distributed using a transportation funding model developed by the Bureau of Legislative Research;

(6) The transportation funding model developed by the Bureau of Legislative Research would result in one hundred (100) of two hundred thirty-six (236) school districts not receiving any supplemental transportation funds;

(7) The Bureau of Legislative Research dedicated extensive time and effort toward the development of the transportation funding model and the General Assembly is extremely grateful for those efforts;

(8) The transportation funding model developed by the Bureau of Legislative Research may be the best evidence-based method for the distribution of supplemental transportation funding; and

(9) The General Assembly requires additional time to study the transportation funding model developed by the Bureau of Legislative Research before implementing the findings and recommendations of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

(b) The House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, in conjunction with the Bureau of Legislative Research, shall conduct a review of the transportation funding model developed by the Bureau of Legislative Research and make recommendations to the Ninetieth General Assembly for consideration during the 2016 fiscal session."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator J. English

SAG/SAG - 03-26-2015 10:56:55

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Secretary