

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.**

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2007-158

State of Arkansas  
86th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2007

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 981

By: Senator Wilkins

Referred to  
Education Committee - Senate  
by the Arkansas Senate  
on 03/28/2007

## For An Act To Be Entitled

ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 2007;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF  
2007.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, there are children of undocumented immigrants who have lived in Arkansas most of their lives; and

Whereas, most of these children have spent their formative years in Arkansas elementary and secondary schools; and

Whereas, many of these children have proven their academic ability by graduating from an Arkansas high school; and

Whereas, many of these children are precluded from accessing an affordable college education because they do not qualify for in-state tuition rates or state-supported scholarships; and

1           Whereas, educational opportunities should be offered to all children so  
2 they may contribute to the future economic viability of Arkansas,

3  
4 NOW THEREFORE,

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6           SECTION 1. (a) This act shall be known as the "Access to  
7 Postsecondary Education Act of 2007".

8           (b) Any tuition rate that is granted to residents of Arkansas shall be  
9 granted on the same terms to all persons, regardless of immigration status,  
10 who have attended a secondary educational institution in Arkansas for at  
11 least three (3) years and who have either graduated from an Arkansas high  
12 school or received a general education diploma in the state.

13           (c) In addition to the requirements under subdivision (b) of this  
14 section, a student without documented status shall file an affidavit with the  
15 state-supported institution of higher education stating that the student has  
16 an intent to legalize his or her immigration status.

17           (d) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall promulgate  
18 the rules necessary for implementation of this act.

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