

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 2007-168

State of Arkansas
86th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

**DRAFT CLR/JLH
HOUSE BILL**

By: Representative Pickett

Filed with: House and Senate Interim Education Committees
pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

REQUESTING THAT THE HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM
COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION CONDUCT A STUDY TO
DETERMINE HOW BLOCK SCHEDULING IMPACTS SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT.

Subtitle

REQUESTING THAT THE HOUSE AND SENATE
INTERIM COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION CONDUCT
A STUDY TO DETERMINE HOW BLOCK
SCHEDULING IMPACTS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT.

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

WHEREAS, Arkansas public schools that are identified by the Department of Education to be in school improvement should use all available resources and strategies to meet state standards for the academic achievement of their students; and

WHEREAS, while block scheduling has been effective in some underperforming schools to turn around student achievement, it may have a detrimental effect during the administration of state-mandated assessments; and

WHEREAS, some schools in Arkansas have used block scheduling, but no

DRAFT

03-05-2007 10:52 CLR265

1 research is available on the impact block scheduling has had or could have on
2 Arkansas public schools, particularly those in school improvement; and

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4 WHEREAS, additional information is needed regarding block scheduling to
5 determine whether it can be a useful tool in Arkansas for turning around
6 student achievement in struggling schools,

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8 NOW THEREFORE,

9 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE AND SENATE INTERIM COMMITTEES ON EDUCATION:

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11 THAT the House and Senate Interim Committees on Education conduct a
12 study of block scheduling and its impact on school improvement to determine
13 whether it can be a useful tool for helping schools in school improvement
14 meet the educational goals of the state. The study should include:

15 (1) A review of how block scheduling has been used in Arkansas
16 and an assessment of its effectiveness and its possible detrimental effects
17 during the administration of state-mandated assessments;

18 (2) A review of what types of block scheduling can be used;

19 (3) What impact block scheduling has had on student achievement
20 in other states;

21 (4) A review of the literature on the effectiveness or negative
22 impact of block scheduling; and

23 (5) Whether and how block scheduling should be utilized by
24 Arkansas public schools in school improvement.

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26 BE IT FURTHER PROPOSED that the House and Senate Interim Committees on
27 Education prepare a report detailing the results of the study on or before
28 May 1, 2008.

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30 Respectfully submitted,

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34 Representative Betty Pickett
35 District 45

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