



Arkansas Department of Education

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Sarah Huckabee Sanders
Governor

Jacob Oliva
Secretary

February 14, 2024

Rebecca Miller-Rice, Administrator
Administrative Rules Review Section
Bureau of Legislative Research
One Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Re: Act 595 Request (Act 637)

Dear Ms. Miller-Rice:

The Arkansas Department of Education respectfully requests Act 637 of 2023 be excluded from future Act 595 reports. In its Report on the Acts of the 2023 Regular Session Requiring New Rulemaking, the Bureau of Legislative Research noted that Ark. Code Ann. § 6-16-156, as created by Act 637 of 2023, only requires the State Board of Education to develop curricula, standards, materials, and units relating to adoption awareness instruction to be provided at public schools in Arkansas. The Department is developing such curricula and related documents. Additionally, the Department has determined that an administrative rule is unnecessary for the operation of the newly created law and does not intend to adopt a rule. In accordance with Act 595 of 2021, the Department respectfully requests that the rule referenced above be excluded from further reporting requirements and that this request be placed upon the next agenda of the ALC Administrative Rules & Regulations Subcommittee.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (501) 682- 4234 should you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrés F. Rhodes", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Andrés F. Rhodes
Chief Legal Counsel