

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

A Bill

HOUSE BILL

1616

By: Representative Mahony

For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO ENTER COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO ESTABLISH OPERATION STAY IN SCHOOL PROGRAMS; TO PERMIT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO DETAIN SUSPECTED TRUANTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. (a) Any public school district may enter into a cooperative agreement with local law enforcement officials to implement within the district an "Operation Stay In School" Program.

(b) Upon the request of the board of directors of the school district, the law enforcement agency shall stipulate with the administration of the school district, specific days and hours when law enforcement officers will attempt to locate school-age students in the community who are off school premises during school hours without valid documentation excusing their presence.

(c) Any certified law enforcement officer may stop and detain any unsupervised school-age student located off school premises during school hours and request the production of documentation excusing his presence from school.

(d) Upon the student's failure to produce sufficient documentation, the law enforcement officer may take the student into custody and return the student to his school, transport him to his parents, or transport him to the truancy reception center which has been designated by the school district.

(e) (1) Any school district adopting this program shall include in its attendance policy a notice to parents and students that it has entered into a cooperative agreement with law enforcement officials to implement an operation

stay in school program and unsupervised students found off school premises during school hours shall be subject to questioning by a law enforcement officer under the program.

(2) Any school district adopting this program shall include provisions for furnishing valid documentation for students in work-study programs or other authorized absences from school premises to assist law enforcement officers in determining the validity of documentation excusing the student's presence in school during school hours.

SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

