

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

H.R.

1063

By: Representatives Foster, Landers, Mitchell,  
Stephens, Hankins

HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING CONSENSUS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
REGARDING FUTURE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION.

WHEREAS, discussions of Section III, Paragraph M, "School Construction" in the proposed Pulaski County Desegregation Settlement Agreement have created a need to clarify the intent of the Paragraph; and

WHEREAS, the Paragraph is not intended to prevent people from living where they wish to live or attending school in the district where they reside; and

WHEREAS, the Paragraph is not intended to conflict with nor supersede provisions in the Arkansas Standards concerning class size by limiting classrooms or school expansion within the districts; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Department of Education commits itself to work with superintendents and boards in the affected district in developing criteria for site selections of new schools, expansions, and closings; and

WHEREAS, the intent of deliberations between the Department and the district superintendents and board members is to develop criteria which will minimize constitutional violations for both the districts and the state, thus reducing liability for both in the event of future litigation; and

WHEREAS, strong consideration in the development of the criteria will be given to those districts:

(a) having shown good faith efforts to provide appropriate educational facilities for the children of the district as shown by local tax efforts;

(b) having demonstrated the necessity for constructing schools as needed to meet Arkansas education standards,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

That no district's request pertaining to school construction shall be denied if all other requirements for the proposed construction have been met as required by state regulations.