

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Representative Mahony**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1688

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH DIFFERENTIATED DIPLOMAS IN THE HIGH
9 SCHOOLS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN THIS STATE; AND FOR
10 OTHER PURPOSES."

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

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14 *SECTION 1. (a) Beginning with the 1991-92 school year, each local*
15 *school board shall adopt policies for the awarding of differentiated diplomas*
16 *to high school graduating seniors. The policies shall include the courses and*
17 *grade point average required for graduation beginning with the 1994-95 school*
18 *year and shall be set by the local school board after conducting public*
19 *hearings.*

20 *(b)(1) An "honors" diploma shall be awarded to those students who*
21 *successfully complete the minimum core of high school courses recommended for*
22 *preparation for post secondary education or a more rigorous program of*
23 *vocational study with a minimum grade point of 3.0 or its' equivalent. Other*
24 *criteria for awarding the "honors" diploma shall be set by the local school*
25 *board and shall meet the requirements of state law and State Board of*
26 *Education regulations.*

27 *(2) A "standard" diploma shall be awarded to those students who*
28 *achieve a grade point average of 2.0 or better and successfully complete the*
29 *courses required for graduation. A "standard" diploma shall also be awarded*
30 *to those students who successfully complete the courses required for*
31 *graduation who do not achieve a grade point average of 2.0 but who pass an*
32 *"exit test" developed by the Department of Education and approved for use by*
33 *the State Board of Education. Other criteria for awarding a "standard"*
34 *diploma shall be set by the local school board and shall meet the requirements*
35 *of state law and State Board of Education regulations.*

