

1 State of Arkansas
2 80th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1995
4 By: Representatives Bisbee, Stewart, Wren, Hill, Fletcher, Newman, Molinaro,
5 and vonGrep

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1281

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT AUTHORS OF BILLS FILED WITH THE
10 ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRESCRIBING HOW STATE AID WILL
11 BE ALLOCATED TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS SHALL MAKE CERTAIN
12 DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE TO HOUSE AND SENATE MEMBERS; TO
13 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

16 "REQUIRING AUTHORS OF BILLS PRESCRIBING
17 HOW STATE AID WILL BE ALLOCATED TO
18 SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO FURNISH CERTAIN
19 DOCUMENTS TO HOUSE AND SENATE MEMBERS."

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

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23 SECTION 1. (a) The author of any bill filed with the House or Senate
24 that prescribes how state aid for public school programs shall be allocated
25 to local school districts, or amends existing laws prescribing how state aid
26 for public school programs shall be allocated to local school districts,
27 shall make the following available to House and Senate members at the time of
28 the bill's introduction:

29 (1) A document displaying, in descending order, current federal,
30 state, and local funding levels, less debt service, per pupil for each school
31 district under the existing funding formula, with the amount of debt service
32 also shown on the document; and

33 (2) A document displaying, in descending order, current federal,
34 state, and local funding levels, less debt service, per pupil for each school
35 district under the proposed funding formula, with the amount of debt service

1 *also shown on the document.*

2 (b) A copy of such *documents* shall be placed on the desk of each
3 member of the House or Senate committee to which the bill is referred before
4 the bill may be called up for final action in the committee. Copies shall
5 also be placed on the desk of each member of the Senate or House before a
6 final vote may be taken on it for final passage.

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8 SECTION 2. (a)(1) If the author of any House or Senate bill affected
9 by this act shall fail to file the *documents* as required, any member of the
10 House or Senate committee to which the bill is referred may object to it
11 being called up for final action in the committee until the *documents* are
12 made available to the committee.

13 (2) If such objection is made by a member of the House or Senate
14 committee, the committee chairman shall refer the bill to the State
15 Department of Education for the preparation of the *documents*, to be returned
16 to the committee not later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the
17 request.

18 (b)(1) If any such House or Senate bill is called up for final passage
19 in the House or Senate and the *documents* have not been provided by the author
20 of the bill, or by the committee to which the bill was referred, any member
21 of the House or Senate may object to the bill being called up for final
22 passage until the *documents* are prepared and made available on the desk of
23 each member of the House or Senate at least one (1) day prior to the bill
24 being called up for final passage.

25 (2) If such an objection is made, the presiding officer of the
26 House or Senate shall cause the bill to be referred to the State Department
27 of Education for the preparation of the *documents*, which shall be filed with
28 the House or Senate not later than fourteen (14) days from the date of the
29 request.

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31 SECTION 3. (a) Failure of the sponsor of a bill to provide the
32 *documents* as required in this act shall not prohibit the consideration of the
33 bill in the committee to which referred or on the floor of the house in which
34 the bill is called up for final passage if no objection to it is made at the
35 time such action is taken.

1 (b) Nothing in this act shall prohibit a committee to which a bill is
2 referred or the house in which the bill is being considered from suspending
3 the requirement of the filing of the *documents* with any such bill in the same
4 manner as provided for the suspension of the rules in the house in which the
5 bill is being considered.

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7 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
8 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
9 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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11 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
12 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
13 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
14 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
15 act are declared to be severable.

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17 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
18 hereby repealed.

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20 SECTION 7. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the
21 Eightieth General Assembly that a significant amount of state revenues are
22 expended on public education; that members of the House and the Senate are
23 frequently asked to consider bills prescribing how state aid will be
24 allocated to local school districts or bills amending existing laws without
25 being provided the statistical information necessary for an informed vote;
26 that immediate passage of this act is essential to understanding the impact
27 of such legislation on local school districts and the students therein.
28 Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being
29 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall
30 take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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/s/Rep. Bisbee, et al

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