

1 State of Arkansas
2 80th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1995

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1299

4 By: Representatives Allen, T. Smith, and Thicksten
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 6, CHAPTER 42, SUBCHAPTER 2 OF THE
9 ARKANSAS CODE BY ESTABLISHING A BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO
10 GOVERN THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCES;
11 TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."
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Subtitle

13 "TO ESTABLISH A BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO
14 GOVERN THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR
15 MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCES."
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-42-201 is hereby amended to
21 read as follows:

22 "6-42-201. Establishment - Purpose - Location - Funding - Tuition.

23 (a) There is hereby established the Arkansas School for Mathematics
24 and Sciences, hereinafter "school", which shall be a residential school for
25 eleventh and twelfth grade students. The purpose of the school shall be to
26 educate the gifted and talented math and science students of the state and to
27 develop curriculum and materials to improve instruction in mathematics and
28 sciences for all students in the state. The school's curriculum, faculty,
29 and admissions policy shall reflect such purposes. While the emphasis of the
30 school shall be dedicated to the academic teaching of mathematics and
31 sciences, some emphasis may be placed on the arts and humanities, as deemed
32 appropriate by the Board of Trustees .

33 (b) The school shall be located on the campus of an Arkansas
34 institution of higher education or at such other appropriate facility which
35 can provide the classrooms, laboratories, library facilities, dormitories,

1 and other services necessary for the proper operation and support of the
2 school. The school shall be funded by moneys appropriated by the General
3 Assembly for the operation of the school and by such grants, contributions,
4 or donations which may be received for the support of the school. Students
5 selected to attend the school shall not be required to pay tuition, fees, or
6 room and board."

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8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-42-202 is hereby amended to
9 read as follows:

10 "6-42-202. Board of Trustees.

11 (a) The school shall be governed by a Board of Trustees.

12 (b)(1) The Board of Trustees shall consist of seven (7) members, with
13 one (1) member appointed from each Congressional district and the remaining
14 members appointed at-large. Five (5) ex-officio nonvoting members shall also
15 serve on the board.

16 (2) The Governor shall appoint all seven (7) members of the
17 Board of Trustees.

18 (c)(1) Members of the board appointed by the Governor under the
19 provisions of this section, in addition to possessing the qualifications of
20 an elector, shall reside in the state of Arkansas.

21 (2) Members shall serve seven (7) year terms. Once appointed,
22 the initial seven (7) members of the board shall draw lots so that no more
23 than one term expires each year.

24 (d) The Director of the General Education Division of the Arkansas
25 Department of Education, the Director of the Arkansas Department of Higher
26 Education, the president of the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority,
27 the president of the school's Parent Association, and the president of the
28 school's Student Government shall serve as the five (5) ex-officio nonvoting
29 members of the board."

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31 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-42-203 is hereby amended to
32 read as follows:

33 "6-42-203. Powers and duties of the Board of trustees.

34 (a) The Board of Trustees created under § 6-42-202 is charged with the
35 management and control of the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences.

1 (b) The board shall annually elect a chairman, a secretary, and such
2 other officers as the boards deems appropriate.

3 (c) The board shall meet at least once a month.

4 (d) The chairman is authorized to call special meetings of the board
5 as needed, upon two (2) days written notice to the members.

6 (e) Any three (3) board members are authorized to call special
7 meetings of the board, upon two (2) days written notice to the members.

8 (f) The board shall employ an administrator for the school who may be
9 *removed by the board or the Governor. The Governor may designate the*
10 *Director of the General Education Division, the Department of Education to*
11 *act in his stead.*

12 (g) The board is authorized to contract with other state agencies and
13 private research centers as it deems necessary in carrying out its
14 responsibilities for the operation of the school.

15 (h) The board is authorized to receive contributions, donations,
16 gifts, bequests of money, other forms of financial assistance and property,
17 equipment, materials or personnel from persons, foundations, trust funds,
18 corporations, organizations, and other sources, private or public, to be
19 expended and utilized for the operation of the school.

20 (i) *The board may, by a majority vote of the total membership, at the*
21 *first regularly scheduled meeting of each calendar year, authorize expense*
22 *reimbursement for the board members to perform official duties of the board*
23 *and such expense reimbursement shall not exceed the rate established for*
24 *state employees in the state travel regulations."*

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26 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-42-204 is hereby amended to
27 read as follows:

28 "6-42-204. Administrator - staff.

29 (a) The administrator of the Arkansas School for Mathematics and
30 Sciences shall be the chief administrative officer of the school and shall
31 administer the school in accordance with policies established by the Board of
32 Trustees.

33 (b) Upon recommendation of the administrator, the board shall employ
34 other personnel the board deems necessary for the operation of the school.

35 (c)(1) The administrator and other personnel employed for the

1 operation of the school shall be employees of the State of Arkansas.

2 (2) Faculty members and other personnel required for operation
3 of the school shall be recommended for employment by the administrator and
4 shall be employed by annual contract by the school.

5 (3) Teachers and administrators so employed shall be eligible
6 for membership in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and earn credited
7 service for such employment.

8 (4) Noneducational personnel employed by the department shall be
9 eligible for membership in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System and earn
10 credit for such employment."

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12 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-42-205 is hereby amended to
13 read as follows:

14 "6-42-205. Technical assistance from State agencies.

15 The Department of Education, the Department of Higher Education, and
16 the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority shall provide technical
17 assistance to the staff of the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences."

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19 SECTION 6. Title 6, Chapter 42, Subchapter 2 of the Arkansas Code
20 Annotated is hereby amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

21 "6-42-206. Governance of school.

22 All Department of Education regulations shall apply to the Arkansas
23 School of Mathematics and Sciences, unless the department indicates
24 otherwise."

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

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30 SECTION 8. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
31 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
32 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
33 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
34 act are declared to be severable.

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1 SECTION 9. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
2 hereby repealed.

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4 SECTION 10. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the
5 Eightieth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the effective
6 operation of the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences is dependent
7 upon the immediate reorganization of the governance structure of the school
8 and that failure to implement this act immediately will cause undue hardship
9 to the school and the students therein. Therefore, an emergency is hereby
10 declared to exist and this act being necessary for the immediate preservation
11 of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force and effect
12 from and after its passage and approval.

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/s/Allen, et al

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