

1 State of Arkansas

2 80th General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 1995

4 By: Representative Mullenix

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A Bill

HOUSE BILL

2033

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL START DATE STUDY
9 COMMISSION; TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS
10 AND A LEGISLATIVE REPORT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

13 "TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL START
14 DATE STUDY COMMISSION; TO PROVIDE FOR
15 THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS."

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

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19 SECTION 1. (a) There is hereby created the Arkansas School Start Date
20 Study Commission to be charged with reviewing the laws, past and present, of
21 Arkansas and the regulations of the Arkansas Department of Education
22 regarding the beginning date for public schools in Arkansas. The study shall
23 research the impact on the tourism industry and the amount of money lost to
24 education budgets because of the early start of the school year. The study
25 shall also research the amount of dollars it costs to operate the school
26 daily and if a longer school year actually improves student learning levels.
27 It shall further study the feasibility of making the beginning date for
28 school uniform throughout the state, without sacrificing efficiency or the
29 high standards of the Arkansas school systems, develop legislation
30 accordingly.

31 (b) To facilitate the work of the commission, the study commission
32 shall be encouraged to hold public hearings and seek input from any and all
33 interested parties, particularly the tourism and vacation industries. The
34 Tourism Division of the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism *and the*
35 *Arkansas Department of Education* shall prepare any interim and the final

1 reports for the study commission.

2 (c) The Arkansas School Start Date Study Commission shall submit a
3 final report and its recommendations for any proposed legislation to the
4 Joint Interim Committee on Education and the Joint Interim Committee on
5 Agriculture and Economic Development of the Arkansas General Assembly on or
6 before September 1, 1996. The study commission shall expire on January 1,
7 1997.

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9 SECTION 2. (a) The Arkansas School Start Date Study Commission shall
10 *be composed of thirteen (13) members to be appointed in the manner and to*
11 *represent various interests as follows:*

12 (1) *Two (2) members of the Joint Interim Committee on Education*
13 *of the Arkansas General Assembly, one (1) to be a Senator and one (1) to be a*
14 *Representative, to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate*
15 *and by the Speaker of the House, respectively;*

16 (2) *Two (2) members of the Joint Interim Committee on*
17 *Agriculture and Economic Development of the Arkansas General Assembly, one*
18 *(1) to be a Senator and one (1) to be a Representatives, to be appointed by*
19 *the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and by the Speaker of the House,*
20 *respectively;*

21 (3) *One (1) member representing the Arkansas Association of*
22 *School Administrators to be appointed by the Executive Director of that*
23 *organization;*

24 (4) *One (1) member representing the Arkansas School Board*
25 *Association to be appointed by the Executive Director of that organization;*

26 (5) *One (1) member representing the Arkansas Rural Educators*
27 *Association to be appointed by the Executive Director of that organization;*

28 (6) *One (1) members representing the Arkansas Education*
29 *Association to be appointed by the Executive Director of that organization;*

30 (7) *One (1) member representing a state supported college or*
31 *university in Arkansas to be appointed by the Director of the Department of*
32 *Higher Education;*

33 (8) *One (1) member representing the Arkansas Hospitality*
34 *Association to be appointed by the Executive Director of that organization;*

35 (9) *One (1) member is to be the Director of the Department of*

1 *Parks and Tourism or his designee;*

2 (10) *One (1) member to be the Chairman of the State Parks,*
3 *Recreation, and Travel Commission or his designee from the Commission; and*

4 (11) *One (1) member to be the Director of the Department of*
5 *Education or his designee.*

6 (b) The Speaker of the House shall select one (1) of the
7 Representatives as a co-chairman, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate
8 shall select one (1) of the Senators as a co-chairman.

9 (c) A member of the study commission shall continue to serve on the
10 commission, until he or she no longer wishes to serve or no longer qualifies
11 to represent or no longer is a member of the committee, body, or organization
12 which he or she was appointed to represent. Any vacancy on the study
13 commission shall be filled by the original appointing authority with another
14 qualifying member of the committee, body, or organization.

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16 SECTION 3. (a) Members of the study commission who are state
17 employees or university personnel shall serve without compensation but may be
18 reimbursed for expenses and travel by their employing agencies or
19 institutions in the maximum amounts prescribed by the Department of Finance
20 and Administration for state employees or institution personnel.

21 (b) Legislative members of the study commission shall be entitled to
22 per diem and mileage at the same rate authorized by law for attendance at
23 meetings of joint interim committees of the General Assembly. Legislative
24 members of the study commission may receive payment for per diem and mileage
25 from appropriated funds for the joint interim committees which they
26 represent, for the joint interim committees on which they serve, or from
27 appropriated funds for travel and expenses for the house of the General
28 Assembly in which they serve.

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30 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of general and permanent nature
31 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
32 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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34 SECTION 5 . If any provisions of this act or the application thereof
35 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not

1 affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect
2 without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions
3 of this act are declared to be severable.

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

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/s/Rep. Mullenix

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