

1 State of Arkansas
2 80th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1995
4 By: Senator Lewellen

A Bill

SENATE BILL 583

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARK. CODE § 6-15-503 TO REQUIRE HOME
9 SCHOOL STUDENTS TO TAKE THE HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM
10 ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; TO
11 AMEND ARK. CODE § 6-60-208 TO REQUIRE SUCCESSFUL
12 COMPLETION OF THE HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM FOR UNCONDITIONAL
13 OR CONDITIONAL ADMISSION TO STATE SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS
14 OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO REQUIRE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF
15 THE HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM FOR ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE A
16 STATE-FUNDED SCHOLARSHIP TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
17 EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Subtitle

18
19
20 "TO REQUIRE HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS,
21 STUDENTS UNCONDITIONALLY OR
22 CONDITIONALLY ADMITTED TO STATE
23 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND
24 STATE FUNDED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS TO
25 TAKE THE HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAM."

26
27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

28
29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-15-503 is hereby amended to
30 read as follows:

31 "6-15-503. Prerequisites to home schooling.

32 Parents or guardians desiring to provide a home school for their children
33 must comply with the following requirements:

34 (1)(A) Give written notice to the superintendent of their local school
35 district by August 15, or by December 15 for the spring semester, of each

1 school year of their intent to provide a home school for their child. Notice
2 must include:

- 3 (i) The name, date of birth, grade level, and the name and
4 address of the school last attended, if any, of each student involved;
- 5 (ii) The location of the home school;
- 6 (iii) The basic core curriculum to be offered;
- 7 (iv) The proposed schedule of instruction; and
- 8 (v) The qualifications of the parent/teachers.

9 (B) This information may be used only for statistical purposes.

10 (2) Agree for students enrolled in the home school who are seven (7)
11 years old or older on the date of the test to be tested annually by May 1
12 using a nationally recognized standardized achievement test chosen by the
13 parents from a list of such tests provided by the State Board of Education.

14 (3) Agree, beginning with the 1996-97 school year, that any student
15 enrolled in home school age sixteen (16) or above will take the high school
16 exit examination administered by the Department of Education in accord with
17 rules and regulations promulgated by the department that prescribe procedures
18 for administering the exit examination to home school students.

19 (4) Provide information about any student to be enrolled in the home
20 school which might indicate the need for special education services."
21

22 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-60-208 is hereby amended to
23 read as follows:

24 "6-60-208. Completion of core curriculum for unconditional admission to
25 a public institution of higher education.

26 (a) Beginning with the 1997-98 academic year, any student who
27 graduated from a high school after May 1, 1997, must have successfully
28 completed the college preparatory core curriculum, recommended by the State
29 Board of Higher Education after consultation with the State Board of
30 Education and pursuant to § 6-61-217, or the technical preparatory core
31 curriculum established by the State Board of Education pursuant to
32 § 6-18-101, with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.00, and the
33 high school exit examination administered by the State Department of
34 Education, to be eligible for unconditional admission to an associate of arts
35 or a bachelor's degree program in a public four-year institution of higher

1 education.

2 (b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, beginning with the
3 1997-98 academic year, any student who graduated from a high school after May
4 1, 1997, must have successfully completed the college preparatory core
5 curriculum, recommended by the State Board of Higher Education after
6 consultation with the State Board of Education and pursuant to § 6-61-217, or
7 the technical preparatory core curriculum established by the State Board of
8 Education pursuant to § 6-18-101, and the high school exit examination
9 administered by the State Department of Education, to enroll in any
10 certificate, diploma, or degree program in any public two-year institution of
11 higher education.

12 (c)(1) The colleges and universities shall develop standards for
13 collegiate admissions based on the mission of each institution and establish
14 a conditional collegiate admission process for each institution, subject to
15 the recommendations of the State Board of Higher Education. The colleges and
16 universities are hereby directed to establish standards for conditional
17 admission for students who have not completed the college preparatory core
18 curriculum or the technical preparatory core curriculum, subject to the
19 recommendations of the State Board of Higher Education. At a minimum, these
20 conditional admissions standards shall require the following:

21 (A) For a student seeking an associate of arts degree or a
22 baccalaureate degree and who failed to successfully complete the college
23 preparatory core curriculum or the technical preparatory core curriculum,
24 successful completion of the high school exit examination administered by the
25 State Department of Education and completion of twelve (12) hours of core
26 academic courses and any necessary remedial courses with a cumulative grade
27 point average of 2.00.

28 (B) For a student seeking a diploma, a technical
29 certificate, or an associate of applied science degree and who failed to
30 successfully complete the college preparatory core curriculum or the
31 technical preparatory core curriculum, successful completion of the high
32 school exit examination administered by the State Department of Education and
33 completion of six (6) hours of core academic courses, six (6) hours of
34 technical courses required for the diploma, technical certificate, or
35 associate of applied science degree, and any necessary remedial courses with

1 a cumulative grade point average of 2.00.

2 (2) In the development of the conditional admission standards, special
3 attention shall be given to nontraditional students, including those who are
4 home-schooled or who attended private secondary schools.

5 (3)(A) Conditional admission standards should appropriately reflect
6 the mission of the institution and shall be implemented by the institutions
7 as a condition for receiving state funds.

8 (B) If the State Board of Higher Education does not approve the
9 conditional collegiate admission standards and process for an institution, no
10 state funds shall be used to subsidize or pay for any portion of the cost
11 associated with the conditional students.

12 (d) The admissions criteria set forth in this section shall not apply
13 to those individuals who graduated from a high school prior to May 1, 1997.

14 (e) Nothing in this section shall prevent an institution of higher
15 education from setting higher admissions standards for enrolling freshmen."
16

17 SECTION 3. Beginning with the 1997-98 academic year, no student
18 enrolling for the first time in a public or private institution of higher
19 education shall be the recipient of a scholarship funded by the State of
20 Arkansas unless the student has successfully completed the high school exit
21 examination administered by the State Department of Education."
22

23 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
24 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
25 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.
26

27 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
28 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
29 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
30 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
31 act are declared to be severable.
32

33 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
34 hereby repealed.
35

1
2
3
4