

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 668

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARK. CODE § 6-18-502 TO PROVIDE THAT A
9 LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT'S COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL POLICIES
10 SHALL REVIEW THE DISTRICT'S STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICIES
11 ANNUALLY; TO PROVIDE AN APPEAL PROCESS FOR SCHOOL
12 EMPLOYEES WHO DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A DISTRICT'S STUDENT
13 DISCIPLINE POLICIES HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES."

Subtitle

15
16
17 "TO AMEND A.C.A. § 6-18-502 RELATIVE TO
18 SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT DISCIPLINE
19 POLICIES."
20

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

22
23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Annotated § 6-18-502 is hereby amended to
24 read as follows:

25 "6-18-502. Guidelines for development of school district student
26 discipline policies.

27 (a) The Department of Education shall establish guidelines for the
28 development of school district student discipline policies.

29 (b) Such guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, the
30 following requirements:

31 (1) Parents, students, and school district personnel, including
32 teachers, shall be involved in the development of school district student
33 discipline policies;

34 (2) The student discipline policies shall be reviewed by the
35 school district's committee on personnel policies annually. The committee

1 may recommend changes in the policies to the board of directors of the local
2 school district.

3 (3) Student discipline policies shall include, but not be limited
4 to, the following offenses:

5 (A) Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening
6 to assault or abuse any teacher, principal, superintendent, or other employee
7 of a school system;

8 (B) Possession by students of any firearm or other weapon
9 prohibited upon the school campus by policies adopted by the school board;

10 (C) Using, offering for sale, or selling beer, alcoholic
11 beverages, or other illicit drugs by students on school property;

12 (D) Possession by a student of any paging device, beeper,
13 or similar electronic communication device on the school campus; however, the
14 policy may provide an exemption for possession of such a device by a student
15 who is required to use such a device for health or other compelling reasons;
16 and

17 (E) Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or
18 stealing of school property by students.

19 (c) The school discipline policies shall:

20 (1) Prescribe minimum and maximum penalties, including students'
21 suspension or dismissal from school, for violations of each of the
22 aforementioned offenses and for violations of other practices prohibited by
23 school discipline policies; and

24 (2) Establish procedures for notice to students and parents of
25 charges, hearings, and other due process proceedings to be applicable in the
26 enforcement and administration of such policies by the school administrator
27 and by the school board; and

28 (3) Include prevention, intervention, and conflict resolution
29 provisions.

30 (d) Student discipline policies shall provide that parents and
31 students will be advised of the rules and regulations by which the school is
32 governed and will be made aware of the behavior that will call for
33 disciplinary action and the types of corrective actions that may be imposed.

34 (e) Each school district shall develop a procedure for written
35 notification to all parents and students of the district's student discipline

1 policies and documentation of the receipt of the policies by all parents and
2 students.

3 (f) Teachers and administrators shall be provided with training as
4 needed in classroom management and in other skills relevant to student
5 discipline.

6 (g) If a school employee believes that any action taken by the school
7 district to discipline a student does not follow school district discipline
8 policies, the school employee may appeal under the district_s grievance
9 procedure as provided under § 6-17-208.

10 (h) In developing the state guidelines for school district discipline
11 policies, the Department of Education shall involve parents, students,
12 teachers, and administrators."
13

14 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
15 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
16 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.
17

18 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
19 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
20 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
21 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
22 act are declared to be severable.
23

24 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
25 hereby repealed.
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35

1

2