

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 745

4 By: Senators Hoofman, Gwatney, Walker and Russ

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO FURTHER DESEGREGATION BY CONSOLIDATING THE
9 NORTH LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT, THE PULASKI COUNTY
10 SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND THE LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL
11 DISTRICT TO CREATE TWO NEW SCHOOL DISTRICTS SEPARATED BY
12 THE ARKANSAS RIVER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

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15 "TO FURTHER DESEGREGATION BY
16 CONSOLIDATING THE THREE PULASKI COUNTY
17 SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO CREATE TWO NEW
18 SCHOOL DISTRICTS SEPARATED BY THE
19 ARKANSAS RIVER."

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

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23 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intention of the Arkansas
24 General Assembly through this act to further the process of desegregation in
25 the three (3) Pulaski County school districts and to expedite a declaration
26 by the federal court that the districts have achieved unitary status by
27 eliminating all vestiges of racial segregation.

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29 SECTION 2. As used in this act, unless the context otherwise requires,
30 "Consolidation" means the joining of territories from two (2) or more school
31 districts to create a new single school district.

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33 SECTION 3. (a) The North Little Rock School District and that portion
34 of the Pulaski County Special School District which is located north of the
35 Arkansas River are hereby consolidated and shall be known as the North

1 Pulaski School District.

2 (b)(1) Those members of the former Pulaski County Special School
3 District Board of Directors who reside north of the Arkansas River and the
4 members of the former North Little School District Board of Directors shall
5 continue to serve as and constitute the Board of Directors of the North
6 Pulaski School District until the election of a new board of directors at the
7 1996 annual school election.

8 (2) At such time, a new board of directors consisting of eleven
9 (11) members shall be elected from single-member zones, drawn by the Pulaski
10 County Board of Education at least ninety (90) days before the election,
11 having substantially equal population, and drawn in such a manner as will
12 comply with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

13 (3) Except as provided in this subsection, board members shall
14 serve five-year terms.

15 (4) At the first meeting of the newly-elected North Pulaski
16 School District Board of Directors, the members shall establish initial terms
17 by lot so that, to the extent possible, an equal number of positions are
18 filled each year and not more than two (2) members' terms expire each year.

19 (c) The North Pulaski School District shall succeed to the property
20 and the liabilities of the former North Little Rock School District and the
21 property and liabilities of the former Pulaski County Special School District
22 located north of the Arkansas River.

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24 SECTION 4. (a) The Little Rock School District and that portion of
25 the Pulaski County Special School District which is located south of the
26 Arkansas River are hereby consolidated and shall be known as the South
27 Pulaski School District.

28 (b)(1) Those members of the former Pulaski County Special School
29 District Board of Directors who reside south of the Arkansas River and the
30 members of the Little Rock School District Board of Directors shall continue
31 to serve as and constitute the Board of Directors of the South Pulaski School
32 District until the election of a new board of directors at the 1996 annual
33 school election.

34 (2) At such time, a new board of directors consisting of eleven
35 (11) members shall be elected from single-member zones, drawn by the Pulaski

1 County Board of Education at least ninety (90) days before the election,
2 having substantially equal population, and drawn in such a manner as will
3 comply with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

4 (3) Except as provided in this subsection, board members shall
5 serve five-year terms.

6 (4) At the first meeting of the newly-elected South Pulaski
7 School District Board of Directors, the members shall establish initial terms
8 by lot so that, to the extent possible, an equal number of positions are
9 filled each year and not more than two (2) members' terms expire each year.

10 (c) The South Pulaski School District shall succeed to the property
11 and the liabilities of the former Little Rock School District and the
12 property and liabilities of the former Pulaski County Special School District
13 located south of the Arkansas River.

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15 SECTION 5. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
16 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
17 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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19 SECTION 6. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
20 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
21 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
22 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
23 act are declared to be severable.

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25 SECTION 7. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
26 hereby repealed.

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