

Stricken language would be deleted from present law. Underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1509

4

5 By: Representatives Wilkins, Pollan, Thicksten, Newman, McKissack, Roberts, Judy Smith, Brown, Willems, Ammons, Bush, Critcher,
6 Ferrell, Hale, McGee, Miller, Northcutt, and Sheppard

7 By: Senators Edwards, Russ, Mahony, Boozman, Bradford, Brown, and Jeffries

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For An Act To Be Entitled

10 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DIRECTOR OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION
11 DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE A
12 CLEARINGHOUSE ON NONSECTARIAN PRACTICES IN CHARACTER AND
13 CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROGRAMS TO ASSIST LOCAL SCHOOL
14 DISTRICTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

17 "TO PROVIDE A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR
18 INFORMATION ON NONSECTARIAN PRACTICES IN
19 CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TO
20 ASSIST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS."

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

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24 SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The General Assembly finds and
25 acknowledges that, while character and citizenship is primarily a parental
26 responsibility, it must not remain isolated there. The General Assembly
27 further finds that character and citizenship education must be strengthened in
28 public school to prepare young people for positive dealings with the social
29 order of today.

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31 SECTION 2. (a) The Director of the General Education Division of the
32 Department of Education shall provide a clearinghouse for information on
33 nonsectarian practices in character and citizenship education programs within
34 Arkansas and across the nation in order to assist local schools to strengthen
35 character and citizenship education as a local option for school district
36 curriculum in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12).

1 (b) The director shall ensure that information on nonsectarian
2 practices and models is disseminated to all school districts in the state by
3 no later than August 1, 1998, and is updated after each regular session of the
4 General Assembly.

5 (c) During each interim of the biennium, the director shall provide a
6 progress report on the implementation and effectiveness of this act to the
7 members of the House and Senate Interim Committees on Education.

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9 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
10 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
11 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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13 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
14 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
15 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
16 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
17 act are declared to be severable.

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

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