

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
4

As Engrossed: S3/24/97

A Bill

SENATE BILL 690

5 By: Senators Argue, Malone, Mahony
6 By: Representatives Choate and McGinnis
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE EXCELLENCE IN ARKANSAS PUBLIC
10 EDUCATION TASK FORCE."

11

Subtitle

13 "AN ACT TO CREATE THE EXCELLENCE IN
14 ARKANSAS PUBLIC EDUCATION TASK FORCE."
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force.

20 (a) There is hereby created a legislative committee to be known as the
21 Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force to be composed of the
22 following members:

23 (1) One (1) member representing local school boards;

24 (2) One (1) member representing public school administrators;

25 (3) One (1) member representing the Arkansas Education
26 Association;

27 (4) One (1) member representing Arkansas Friends for Better
28 Schools;

29 (5) One (1) member representing the Arkansas Business and
30 Education Alliance;

31 (6) Four (4) members representing business and industry from
32 around the state;

33 (7) Four (4) members representing parents of public school
34 students from around the state;

35 (8) Four (4) members who are certified public school teachers in
36 Arkansas;

1 (9) Two (2) members who are the Chairs of the House and Senate
2 Education Committees;

3 (10) Two (2) members representing the Senate; and

4 (11) Two (2) members representing the House of Representatives.

5 (b)(1) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint the
6 members representing the Senate, and the Speaker of the House shall appoint
7 the members representing the House of Representatives.

8 (2) Acting in concert, the President Pro Tempore and the Speaker
9 of the House shall appoint the remaining members of the task force.

10 (3) In the event a vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy
11 shall be filled by the same process as the original appointment.

12 (c) The Chairs of the House and Senate Education Committees shall serve
13 as chairs of the task force and shall call meetings as appropriate.

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15 SECTION 2. Purpose.

16 The purpose of the General Assembly in establishing the Excellence in
17 Arkansas Public Education Task Force is to:

18 (1) Explore strategies for improving K-12 public education in
19 Arkansas;

20 (2) Seek to actively involve the private sector as partners in
21 public education throughout the state;

22 (3) Propose and recommend legislation for the 1999 Regular
23 Session;

24 (4) Assess current efforts to improve public education in
25 Arkansas;

26 (5) Develop a coordinated master plan to improve public education
27 in Arkansas.

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29 SECTION 3. Report.

30 The Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force shall submit a
31 report and its recommendations for any proposed legislation to the Senate and
32 House Interim Education Committees on or before October 1st of 1998.

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34 SECTION 4. Staff support.

35 Staff support for the Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force
36 shall be provided by the Arkansas Legislative Council.

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SECTION 5. Per diem.

(a) Legislative members of the Excellence in Arkansas Public Education Task Force shall be entitled to per diem and mileage at the same rate authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim committees of the General Assembly and to be paid from the same source.

(b) Non-legislative members of the task force shall receive per diem and mileage at the same rate authorized by law for attendance at meetings of interim committees of the General Assembly provided appropriated funds are available.

SECTION 6. Expiration.

The provisions of this act shall expire on January 1, 1999.

SECTION 7. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 8. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 9. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

/s/Argue et al