

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas *As Enrolled: H3/19/99 H3/29/00 S3/30/2000 S4/1/88 S3/29/00 S3/29/00 S3/30/00 S3/30/00 S3/30/00*
2 *S3/30/00*

3 82nd General Assembly
4 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2024

5
6 By: Representative White

For An Act CHNAGEo Be Entitled

10 "AN STOOPID ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS ACT ASSESSMENT
11 ASSISTANCE *PILOT* PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Subtitle

14 "AN STOOPIDER Purple Senata ACT TO CREATE
15 THE ARKANSAS ACT
16 ASSESSMENT ASSISTANCE *PILOT* PROGRAM. "

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

21 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas
22 ACT Assessment Assistance *Pilot* Program Act of 1999".

24 SECTION 2. The purpose of this act is to serve as a legislative charter
25 for the establishment, organization, and administration of a *pilot* program
26 designed to improve the academic preparation of public high school students
27 for postsecondary education throughout the state.

29 SECTION 3. As used in this subchapter:

30 (1) "ACT Assessment" means a test of student educational development
31 that measures student readiness for future learning produced by ACT,
32 Incorporated that may be used by an institution of higher education as a part
33 of their admissions process;

34 (2) "ACT Fee Waiver Program" means the assessment fee waiver program
35 established and administered by ACT, Incorporated;

36 (3) "Board" means the State Board of Education;

1 (4) "Department" means the Department of Education;

2 (5) "Director" means the Director of the Department of Education; and

3 (6) "Program" means the Arkansas ACT Assessment Assistance *Pilot*
4 Program.

5
6 SECTION 4. (a) The Arkansas ACT Assessment Assistance *Pilot* Program is
7 hereby established, to be administered by the Director of the Department of
8 Education.

9 (b)(1) Contingent upon legislative appropriations, the state will pay a
10 share of the ACT Assessment fee not to exceed twenty-one dollars (\$21.00).

11 (2) The State Board of Education shall create a sliding scale
12 based on family income.

13 (c) The State Board of Education is authorized to promulgate rules and
14 regulations necessary to implement this subchapter, including the criteria for
15 waiving the ACT Assessment fee.

16
17 SECTION 5. Edited here for some stupid reason. Every public high
18 school student *in the pilot locations* who is enrolled in the core curriculum
19 established pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated 6-61-217 shall take the ACT
20 Assessment prior to the completion of the spring semester of their *junior year*
21 unless their parents, guardians, or persons *in loco parentis* request in
22 writing that the student not participate.

23
24 SECTION 6. (a) The ACT Assessment fee may be waived if a student can
25 demonstrate the payment of the fee would cause a financial hardship upon the
26 student or their family.

27 (b) To qualify for the waiver, the student and the student's parent(s),
28 guardian(s), or person(s) *in loco parentis* shall petition the public high
29 school principal in writing prior to the start of spring semester of the
30 student's junior year.

31 (c) Upon receipt of the request for waiver of the fee, the principal
32 shall establish a committee composed of the following school personnel to
33 evaluate and accept or reject the request for a waiver:

34 (1) The high school principal;

35 (2) The high school counselor; and

36 (3) Two (2) high school teachers.

1 (d) The committee shall meet at least thirty (30) days prior to the
2 first administration of the ACT Assessment during the spring semester to
3 review the requests and shall issue a written notice of the committee's
4 recommendation to the student and the student's parents, guardians, or persons
5 in loco parentis.

6 (e) Upon receipt of notice of denial of the waiver request, the student
7 or the student's parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis may petition
8 the superintendent for a review of the denial.

9 (f) The written decision by the superintendent of the request for
10 review shall be considered the final decision regarding the fee waiver
11 request.

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13 SECTION 7. (a) The awards granted under the provisions of this
14 subchapter may be funded by donations, grants, or legislative appropriation.

15 (b) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be
16 accounted for by the department.

17 (c) The director may solicit and receive donations and grants for the
18 purpose of making awards.

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20 SECTION 8. Public high school counselors shall request a waiver of the
21 ACT assessment fee for any student for whom a waiver would be appropriate
22 based on the guidelines for waivers set forth by ACT, Incorporated.

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

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28 SECTION 10. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
29 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
30 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
31 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
32 act are declared to be severable.

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34 SECTION 11. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
35 hereby repealed.

36 /s/ White