

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  
2 82nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1999  
4

*As Engrossed: S3/8/99*  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 631

5 By: Senator Mahony  
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8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE NOTICE OF INTENT TO HOME SCHOOL TO  
10 BE GIVEN TO A SCHOOL DISTRICT BY AUGUST 15 FOR THE  
11 FALL SEMESTER AND DECEMBER 15 FOR THE SPRING SEMESTER;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

13 **Subtitle**

14 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE NOTICE OF INTENT TO  
15 HOME SCHOOL TO BE GIVEN TO A SCHOOL  
16 DISTRICT BY AUGUST 15 FOR THE FALL  
17 SEMESTER AND DECEMBER 15 FOR THE SPRING  
18 SEMESTER. "

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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-15-503(a)(1) pertaining to notice of intent  
24 to home school is amended to read as follows:

25 "(a)(1) Parents or guardians desiring to provide a home school for  
26 their children must give written notice to the superintendent of their local  
27 school district of their intent to provide a home school for their child and  
28 sign a waiver authorizing the release of the State of Arkansas from any future  
29 liability for the education of their child:

30 (A) ~~At the beginning of each school year for parents who~~  
31 ~~are currently homeschooling their child~~ Except as provided in subdivisions  
32 (a)(1)(B) through (D) of this section, the notice and waiver must be given to  
33 the superintendent prior to August 15 each school year for those who intend to  
34 home school during the fall semester or prior to December 15 each school year  
35 for those who intend to home school during the spring semester.

36 (B) Excluding parents and guardians who have provided

1 notice and waiver as indicated in subdivision (a)(1)(A), any parents or  
 2 guardians who determine that home schooling is in their child's best interest  
 3 and desire to provide a home school for their child must give written notice  
 4 to the superintendent of their local school district of their intent to  
 5 provide a home school for their child and sign a waiver authorizing a release  
 6 of the State of Arkansas from any future liability for the education of their  
 7 child any time during the first fourteen (14) calendar days of the spring and  
 8 fall semester of each school year.

9 (C) Parents or guardians desiring to provide a home school  
 10 for their child must give written notice to the superintendent of their local  
 11 school district of their intent to provide a home school for their child and  
 12 sign a waiver authorizing the release of the State of Arkansas from any future  
 13 liability for the education of their child fourteen (14) calendar days prior  
 14 to withdrawing their child from school, if:

15 (i) The child is failing two or more core curriculum  
 16 courses;

17 (ii) The child has a serious medical condition or  
 18 other health problem verified by a written doctor's statement which  
 19 specifically recommends home schooling for the child because of the child's  
 20 medical condition; or

21 (iii) There is documented concern regarding the  
 22 child's safety.

23 ~~(B)(D) At the time during the school year that the parent~~  
 24 ~~withdraws the child from the local school district and at the beginning of~~  
 25 ~~each school year thereafter. The superintendent or the board of directors of~~  
 26 ~~the school district may waive the fourteen (14) day notice requirement set~~  
 27 ~~forth under section (a)(1)(C)."~~

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 29 *SECTION 2. Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 5 of the Arkansas Code is*  
 30 *amended by adding the following new section to be numbered by the Arkansas*  
 31 *Code Revision Commission:*

32 "The Department of Education shall designate a staff person to provide  
 33 assistance to parents and school districts in understanding and enforcing the  
 34 home school laws."

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 36 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature

1 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
2 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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

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

12 /s/ Mahony  
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