

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

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S3/24/99 S3/29/99

82nd General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 1999

SENATE BILL 889

By: Senator Mahony

For An Act To Be Entitled

" AN ACT TO PROMOTE INSTRUCTION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE IN
ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

"AN ACT TO PROMOTE INSTRUCTION OF FOREIGN
LANGUAGE IN ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS. "

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

SECTION 1. This act shall be known as "The Arkansas Foreign Language
Act of 1999."

SECTION 2. (a) There is hereby created the Arkansas Foreign Language
Teacher Training Program.

(b) The purpose of this program is to:

(1) Encourage undergraduate students who intend to teach in the
state's public schools to pursue a foreign language degree;

(2) Encourage currently certified foreign language teachers to
pursue additional training or an advanced degree in a foreign language;

(3) Encourage certified personnel to add foreign language to
their areas of certification; and

(4) Encourage individuals to seek certification as a foreign
language teacher in grades Kindergarten through eight (8).

(c) The Department of Higher Education, in consultation with the
Department of Education and representatives of the state's foreign language
educators, shall develop a request for proposals process whereby Arkansas
institutions of higher education with teacher training programs may apply for

1 funding, not to exceed three (3) years, to enhance their foreign language
2 teacher training program.

3 (d)(1) The awards granted under the provisions of this subchapter may
4 be funded by donations, grants, or legislative appropriation.

5 (2) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be
6 accounted for by the Department of Higher Education.

7 (3) The director of the Department of Higher Education may
8 solicit and receive donations and grants for the purpose of making awards.

9 (4) The provisions of this act shall be contingent on the
10 appropriation and funding necessary to allow the Department of Higher
11 Education to carry out the duties assigned it in this act.

12
13 SECTION 3. (a) There is hereby created the Arkansas Early Grades
14 Foreign Language Pilot Program.

15 (b) The purpose of this program is to encourage the development of new
16 foreign language programs for students in grades kindergarten thorough six
17 (6), with an emphasis on Spanish.

18 (c) The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of
19 Higher Education and representatives of the state's foreign language
20 educators, shall develop a request for proposals process whereby public
21 schools serving students in grades kindergarten thorough six (6) may apply for
22 funding, not to exceed three (3) years, to establish a foreign language
23 training program, with an emphasis on Spanish.

24 (d)(1) The awards granted under the provisions of this subchapter may
25 be funded by donations, grants, or legislative appropriation.

26 (2) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be
27 accounted for by the Department of Education.

28 (3) The director of the Department of Education may solicit and
29 receive donations and grants for the purpose of making awards.

30 (4) The provisions of this act shall be contingent on the
31 appropriation and funding necessary to allow the Department of Education to
32 carry out the duties assigned to it in this act.

33
34 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
35 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
36 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

1
2 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
3 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
4 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
5 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
6 act are declared to be severable.

7
8 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
9 hereby repealed.

10 /s/ Mahony