

State of Arkansas  
83rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2001

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2198

By: Representatives Magnus, C. Johnson

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISION PERTAINING TO THE CIVIL  
RIGHTS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PROVISION PERTAINING  
TO THE CIVIL RIGHTS SECTION OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-10-111 is amended to read as follows:

6-10-111. Civil rights section of Department of Education.

(a) The Department of Education is authorized to establish a special section within its organization, to be known as the Equity Assistance Center, designed to provide assistance to the school districts of the state in such activities as affirmative action, program accessibility, human relations, awareness, and desegregation.

(b) Such assistance shall include on-site visits, workshops, program review, and any other special activity which might enable the school districts of the state to more effectively meet their civil rights responsibilities.

(c) The ~~special section~~ Equity Assistance Center created by this section shall be the liaison for the department with the United States Office of Civil Rights. ~~It~~ The Equity Assistance Center shall maintain manuals, guidelines, procedures, and other informational materials setting requirements in the area of civil rights and describing how determination of

1 compliance is made.

2 (d) Annually, each local school district in the state shall provide  
3 the Equity Assistance Center ~~the department~~ assurances of compliance with  
4 civil rights responsibilities in the form and at the time as is designated by  
5 the Director of the Department of Education.

6 (e) The Department of Education may withhold state aid from any  
7 district that fails to file its assurance of compliance with civil rights  
8 responsibilities by October 15 each year, or fails to file any other  
9 information with a published deadline requested from school districts by the  
10 Equity Assistance Center so long as thirty (30) calendar days are given  
11 between the request for the information and the published deadline, except  
12 thirty (30) days notice shall not be required when the request comes from a  
13 member or committee of the General Assembly.

14 (f) The Department of Education is authorized to develop forms and  
15 promulgate appropriate rules, regulations, and procedures as may be required  
16 to implement the provisions of this section.