

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2791

4
5 By: Representative R. Smith
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES AND
10 TECHNOLOGY ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 THE PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SERVICES
14 AND TECHNOLOGY ACT.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. (a) It is the intent of the General Assembly to articulate
20 the functions served by each of the components of a school library media
21 services program.

22 (b) The General Assembly is committed to the development and
23 improvement of strong library media programs in all schools.

24 (c) It is the further intent of the General Assembly that each school
25 district shall develop and implement a plan that will address the constantly
26 changing role of technology and information programs.

27 (d) It is the intent of the General Assembly that library media
28 specialists be given time to fulfill their responsibilities under this act.
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30 SECTION 2. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Public
31 School Library Media and Technology Act".
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33 SECTION 3. (a) A "Media Services Program" shall include, but is not
34 limited to:

35 (1)(A) An information specialist whose primary job function is
36 to:



1 (i) Provide resources available to patrons through a
 2 systematically developed collection within the school and through access to
 3 resources outside the school;

4 (ii) Provide assistance to patrons in identifying,
 5 locating, and interpreting information housed in and outside the library
 6 media center;

7 (iii) Provide learning opportunities related to new
 8 technologies, use, and production of a variety of media formats;

9 (iv) Provide instruction in the use of a media
 10 center.

11 (B) Elementary classes shall be limited to thirty (30)
 12 minute class sessions, not to exceed three (3) per day or ten (10) per week;
 13 and

14 (2) An instructional consultant whose primary job function is
 15 to:

16 (A) Participate in building district, department, and
 17 grade level curriculum development and assessment projects;

18 (B) Provide professional development in new and emerging
 19 technologies, use of appropriate technologies, incorporation of technology
 20 into the instructional program, and the laws and policies pertaining to the
 21 use and communication of ideas and information including copyright law; and

22 (C) Keeps patrons informed of new acquisitions of software
 23 and hardware and instruct patrons in its optimal use.

24 (3) A teacher of information and technology skills whose primary
 25 job function is to:

26 (A) Provide assistance in the use of technology to access
 27 information and networks that will enhance access to resources;

28 (B) Develops and implements a plan that ensures skills are
 29 taught in a logical sequence for kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12);

30 (C) Provide expertise and instruction in the use of
 31 electronic retrieval systems, such as electronic card catalog and computer
 32 generated bibliographies; and

33 (D) Provides instruction in the use of media center.

34 (B)(i) Elementary classes shall be limited to thirty (3) minute
 35 class sessions, no to exceed three (3) per day or ten (10) per week.

36 (ii) One-third (1/3) of the media specialist's day

1 shall be spent as an information specialist, one-third (1/3) of the media
 2 specialist's day shall be spent as an information consultant, and one-third
 3 (1/3) of the media specialist's day shall be spent as an teacher of
 4 information and technology skills.

5 (iii) Class sizes shall be as defined by standards
 6 for accreditation.

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 8 SECTION 4. (a)(1) Each school with less than three hundred (300)
 9 students enrolled shall employ at least a part-time certified library media
 10 specialist.

11 (2) A school with three hundred (300) or more students enrolled
 12 shall employ a full-time certified library media specialist.

13 (3) Schools enrolling fifteen hundred (1500) or more students
 14 shall employ two (2) full-time certified library media specialists.

15 (4) For districts with enrollments of less than five hundred
 16 (500) a full-time library media specialist may serve the district.

17 (b) Each school shall provide a facility that functions as the
 18 information center of the school, where students realize their potential as
 19 informed citizens who think critically and solve problems, to observe the
 20 rights and responsibilities relating to the flow of information and ideas and
 21 to appreciate the value of literature in an educated society.

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 23 SECTION 5. (a) Only those trained and certified in the appropriate
 24 specialty will be assigned to carry out duties of the library media
 25 specialist.

26 (b) Duties may not be assigned outside the media center for the
 27 library media specialist that interfere with media center responsibilities.

28 (c) Equipment and personnel shall be available for the developmentally
 29 appropriate production of a wide range of media for students and faculty.

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 31 SECTION 6. (a) School district policies shall ensure compliance with
 32 library privacy laws.

33 (b) The media center policies will recognize that children and youth
 34 have the same rights to privacy as adults.

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 36 SECTION 7. (a) Media centers shall have written policies to establish

1 guidelines for the selection, removal, and retention of materials.

2 (b) The school district will have a written policy for addressing
3 challenged material.

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5 SECTION 8. (a) The school media collection shall consist of a balance
6 of print, non print, and electronic media adequate in quality and quantity to
7 meet the needs of the developmentally appropriate curricular program.

8 (b) The minimum book collection exclusive of textbooks, shall be three
9 thousand (3000) volumes or at least eight (8) books per student enrolled,
10 whichever figure is larger, that are appropriate to the reading level and
11 developmental need of the patrons served.

12 (c) The media program shall be organized so as to make a wide range of
13 media accessible to teachers and students.

14 (d) The media program should provide for the receiving, storing,
15 retrieving, displaying, and processing of information in all forms.

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17 SECTION 9. The school media collection should provide resources that
18 contribute to lifelong learning, while accommodating a wide range of
19 difference in instructional methods, interest, and capabilities.

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21 SECTION 10. A minimum technology requirement will be one (1) computer
22 per media center with multimedia and networking capacity for administrative
23 purposes only.

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