

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  
4

*As Engrossed: H3/27/03*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2791

5 By: Representative R. Smith  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

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

### Subtitle

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 intent of the General Assembly that library media  
25 specialists be given time to fulfill their responsibilities under this act.  
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27 SECTION 2. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Public  
28 School Library Media and Technology Act".  
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30 SECTION 3. (a) A "Media Services Program" means a program of  
31 information and media services in schools delivered by a library media  
32 specialist whose job includes duties as:

33 (1)(A) An information specialist whose primary job function is  
34 to:

35 (i) Provide resources available to patrons through a  
36 systematically developed collection within the school and through access to



1 resources outside the school;

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

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

7 (iv) Provide instruction in the use of a media  
8 center.

9 (B) Elementary class sessions for a library media  
10 specialist shall be limited as provided under subdivision (b)(1) of this  
11 section; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

27 (C) Provide expertise and instruction in the use of  
28 electronic retrieval systems, such as electronic card catalog and computer  
29 generated bibliographies; and

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

31 (b)(1) Elementary classes for a library media specialist in a  
32 media services program shall be limited to no more than forty (40) minutes  
33 per class session, not more than three (3) class sessions per day, nor more  
34 than ten (10) class sessions per week.

35 (2) A library media specialist when working as an instructional  
36 consultant may schedule additional class sessions in excess of the limits of

1 subdivision (b)(1) of this section if the media specialist and the teacher  
2 determine the sessions are needed.

3 (3) One-third (1/3) of the media specialist's day  
4 shall be spent as an information specialist, one-third (1/3) of the media  
5 specialist's day shall be spent as an information consultant, and one-third  
6 (1/3) of the media specialist's day shall be spent as a teacher of  
7 information and technology skills.

8 (4) Class sizes shall be as defined by standards for  
9 accreditation.

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11 SECTION 4. (a)(1) Only trained and certified media service program  
12 personnel shall be assigned to carry out duties of the library media  
13 specialist.

14 (2) Library media clerks may carry out clerical duties  
15 supervised by the library media specialist.

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

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

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23 SECTION 5. (a) Media centers shall have written policies to establish  
24 guidelines for the selection, removal, and retention of materials.

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

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28 SECTION 6. The school media collection should provide resources that  
29 contribute to lifelong learning, while accommodating a wide range of  
30 difference in instructional methods, interest, and capabilities.

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33 /s/ R. Smith  
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