

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2879

5 By: Representative Hardwick
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN LAWS PERTAINING TO HOME
10 SCHOOLS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN LAWS PERTAINING
13 TO HOME SCHOOLS.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-504 is amended to read as follows:

20 6-15-504. Home-schooled students - Achievement tests - Enrollment or
21 reenrollment in local schools.

22 (a) Each student enrolled in a home school program who is considered
23 to be at a grade level, or no more than two (2) years beyond the normal age
24 for the appropriate grade, ~~for which the state mandates norm-referenced tests~~
25 ~~for public school students~~ shall be tested using a nationally recognized
26 achievement test selected by the State Board of Education at the grade level
27 determined by the Department of Education.

28 (b)(1)~~(A)~~ The administration of the tests required of home-schooled
29 students shall be ~~by the directors of the education service cooperatives~~
30 ~~established under § 6-13-1001 et seq. or as otherwise~~ by individuals
31 designated by the Department of Education.

32 ~~(B) For the purposes of this section, the superintendents~~
33 ~~of the Little Rock, North Little Rock, and Pulaski County school districts~~
34 ~~shall act in lieu of an education service cooperative director.~~

35 (2) ~~The directors of the education service cooperatives~~
36 Department of Education shall establish a common set of procedures, ~~approved~~



1 ~~by the Director of the Department of Education,~~ for the proper administration
2 of the tests required by this section.

3 (3) The administration shall include purchasing the test
4 materials, giving the tests, scoring and interpreting the tests, and
5 reporting test results.

6 (c) The cost of testing required by this section shall be the
7 responsibility of the department ~~when the tests are administered by the~~
8 ~~directors of the education service cooperatives or other department~~
9 ~~designees.~~

10 (d) Alternate testing procedures may be approved by the ~~director of an~~
11 ~~education service cooperative~~ the department or its designee after
12 consultation with the parents of a home-schooled student; provided, however,
13 that any costs associated with an alternate testing procedure shall be the
14 responsibility of the parents.

15 (e)(1) Any student that refuses to participate in the testing program
16 or the alternate testing program required by this section shall no longer be
17 considered a home school student and shall be subject to the applicable
18 Arkansas laws regarding truancy as any other public school student.

19 (2) This subsection (e) shall not be applicable to any parent
20 who can present written acknowledgement that the child has been enrolled in a
21 public, private, or parochial school within thirty (30) days of the
22 administration of the state-mandated achievement test.

23 (f)(1) Each local school district shall have authority to assess any
24 home-schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in the district in order to
25 determine proper educational placement.

26 (2) The local school district shall utilize, among other means
27 of assessment, ~~the norm-referenced~~ test approved by the board to assess the
28 student and shall determine placement in the appropriate grade level as
29 indicated by the ~~test results~~ assessment.

30 (g) Any home-schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in a local
31 school district must attend classes for at least nine (9) months immediately
32 prior to graduation before the student can become eligible to receive a high
33 school diploma from the district.

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