

State of Arkansas

Call Item 4

84th General Assembly

A Bill

Second Extraordinary Session, 2003

HOUSE BILL 1038

By: Representative Mathis

By: Senator T. Smith

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL FOR
MATHEMATICS, SCIENCES, AND THE ARTS; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL
FOR MATHEMATICS, SCIENCES, AND THE ARTS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 42, Subchapter 3 is amended
to add additional sections to read as follows:

6-42-308. School qualifies as local education agency.

(a) The General Assembly designates that the Arkansas School for
Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts meets the definition of a "local
education agency" because the school is a public authority, legally
constituted within this state to perform a service function for public
secondary schools and is a public institution or agency having administrative
control and direction of a secondary school.

(b) This section intends to recognize the function of the Arkansas
School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts and to provide eligibility to
the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts to receive state
and federal funds.

6-42-309. Charter school option.

The Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas may petition the



1 State Board of Education for the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences,
2 and the Arts to receive charter school status under the Arkansas Charter
3 Schools Act of 1999.

4
5 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-23-103(8), concerning definitions used
6 for purposes of "The Arkansas Charter Schools Act of 1999", is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (8)(A) "Public school" means a school that is part of a public
9 school district under the control and management of a local board.

10 (B) "Public school" includes the Arkansas School for
11 Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts; and

12
13 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
14 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Arkansas Supreme Court in
15 Lake View District No. 25 v. Huckabee, 351 Ark 31 (2002) declared the
16 existing system of education to be unconstitutional because it is both
17 inequitable and inadequate; that this act assists the Arkansas School for
18 Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts to be eligible for federal grants, and
19 allows the school the flexibility to become a charter school; and that this
20 act is immediately necessary to assist the Arkansas School for Mathematics,
21 Sciences, and the Arts. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and
22 this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public
23 peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

24 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

25 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
26 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
27 bill; or

28 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
29 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.