

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 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4

As Engrossed: H3/3/05  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 2437

5 By: Representatives Abernathy, Adams, Bolin, Boyd, Burris, Cook, Cooper, Davenport, Dickinson,  
6 Everett, Fite, George, Harris, Jackson, Jeffrey, Kenney, Mack, Maloch, Mathis, Nichols, Norton, Pate,  
7 Petrus, S. Prater, Sample, Saunders, Scroggin, Sullivan, Thompson, Walters, Wood, Wyatt  
8  
9

10 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

11 AN ACT TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR CONCURRENT  
12 ENROLLMENT COURSES THAT MAY BE TAUGHT ALONG WITH  
13 ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES IN HIGH SCHOOLS; TO  
14 REPEAL THE CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSE APPROVAL  
15 PANEL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
16

17 **Subtitle**

18 AN ACT TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR  
19 CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES THAT MAY  
20 BE TAUGHT ALONG WITH ADVANCED PLACEMENT  
21 COURSES IN HIGH SCHOOLS.  
22  
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
25

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §§ 6-16-1202 through 6-16-1204 are amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 6-16-1202. Definitions.

29 As used in this subchapter:

30 (1) "Advanced placement course" means a high school level  
31 preparatory course for a college advanced placement test that:

32 (A) Incorporates all topics specified by the College Board  
33 and Educational Testing Service on its standards syllabus for a given subject  
34 area; and

35 (B) Is approved by the College Board and Educational  
36 Testing Service;



1           (2) "~~Concurrent~~ Endorsed concurrent enrollment course" means a  
2 college level course or courses in one (1) of the four (4) core areas of  
3 math, English, science, and social studies and meets the requirements of § 6-  
4 16-1204(b)(2) offered by an institution of higher education which upon  
5 completion would qualify for academic credit in both the institution of  
6 higher education and a public high school;

7           (3) "Pre-advanced placement course" means a middle school,  
8 junior high school, or high school level course that specifically prepares  
9 students to enroll and to participate in an advanced course; and

10           (4) "Vertical team" means a group of educators from different  
11 grade levels in a given discipline who work cooperatively to develop and  
12 implement a vertically aligned program aimed at helping students from diverse  
13 backgrounds acquire the academic skills necessary for success in the advanced  
14 placement program and other challenging coursework.

15  
16           6-16-1203. Teacher skills and training.

17           (a)(1) A teacher of an advanced placement course must obtain  
18 appropriate training.

19           ~~(b)(1)(2)~~ The State Board of Education shall establish clear,  
20 specific, and challenging training guidelines that require teachers of  
21 College Board advanced placement courses and teachers of pre-advanced  
22 placement courses to obtain College Board sponsored or endorsed training.

23           ~~(2)(3)~~ The training may include vertical team training.

24           (b) An instructor of an endorsed concurrent enrollment course shall  
25 have:

26           (1) No less than a master's degree that includes at least  
27 eighteen (18) hours of completed course work in a subject matter related to  
28 the endorsed concurrent enrollment course, and such credentials shall be  
29 approved by the academic unit or chief academic officer of the college; and

30           (2) Advanced skills as necessary to teach from the same syllabus  
31 as is used at the college level.

32  
33           6-16-1204. Implementation of advanced placement courses.

34           (a) In order to prepare students for the rigor inherent in advanced  
35 placement courses, school districts shall offer pre-advanced placement  
36 courses to prepare students for the demands of advanced placement coursework.

1 (b)(1) The Department of Education shall:

2 ~~(1)(A)~~ Approve all classes designated as pre-advanced  
3 placement courses; and

4 ~~(2)(B)~~ Develop rules necessary for the implementation of  
5 advanced placement courses.

6 (2) To qualify as an endorsed concurrent enrollment course under  
7 this section, the course:

8 (A)(i) Shall be taught from substantially the same book  
9 and syllabus as is used at the college level; and

10 (ii) Shall be taught by a instructor with the  
11 qualifications set forth under § 6-16-1203(b); or

12 (B) Is approved for weighted credit under § 6-15-902(c).

13 (3) An endorsed concurrent enrollment course that is not already  
14 approved for weighted credit may qualify for weighted credit as provided  
15 under § 6-15-902(c).

16 (c) Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, all school districts  
17 shall offer one (1) College Board advanced placement course or endorsed  
18 concurrent enrollment course in each of the four (4) core areas of math,  
19 English, science, and social studies for a total of four (4) courses.

20 (d)(1) The requirement under subsection (c) of this section shall be  
21 phased in over a period of four (4) years beginning with the 2005-2006 school  
22 year.

23 (2) Beginning with the 2008-2009 school year, all high schools  
24 in Arkansas shall offer a minimum of four (4) advanced placement courses or  
25 endorsed concurrent enrollment courses by adding at least one (1) core course  
26 each year to the list of courses available to high school students.

27  
28 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1205 is repealed.

29 ~~6-16-1205. Concurrent Enrollment Course Approval Panel.~~

30 ~~(a) There is established a panel to be known as the "Concurrent~~  
31 ~~Enrollment Course Approval Panel".~~

32 ~~(b) The panel shall consist of six (6) members as follows:~~

33 ~~(1) Three (3) persons appointed by the Director of the~~  
34 ~~Department of Education; and~~

35 ~~(2) Three (3) persons appointed by the Director of the~~  
36 ~~Department of Higher Education.~~

1           ~~(c) The appointed panel members shall be:~~

2                   ~~(1) Knowledgeable regarding advanced placement coursework or~~  
3 ~~concurrent enrollment coursework; and~~

4                   ~~(2) Residents of the State of Arkansas at the time of~~  
5 ~~appointment and throughout their terms.~~

6           ~~(d) Members shall serve at the pleasure of the director making his or~~  
7 ~~her appointment.~~

8           ~~(e) If a vacancy occurs in an appointed position for any reason, the~~  
9 ~~vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the director of the department who~~  
10 ~~made the original appointment.~~

11           ~~(f)(1) Panel members appointed by the Director of the Department of~~  
12 ~~Education and the Director of the Department of Higher Education shall~~  
13 ~~alternate serving as chair of the panel each year.~~

14                   ~~(2) The Director of the Department of Education and the Director~~  
15 ~~of the Department of Higher Education shall alternate each year naming a~~  
16 ~~person to serve as chair of the panel.~~

17                   ~~(3) The Director of the Department of Education and the Director~~  
18 ~~of the Department of Higher Education shall draw lots to determine which~~  
19 ~~director shall first appoint a chair.~~

20           ~~(g)(1) The panel shall meet at times and places the chair deems~~  
21 ~~necessary, but no meetings shall be held outside of the State of Arkansas.~~

22                   ~~(2) A majority of the members of the panel shall constitute a~~  
23 ~~quorum for the purpose of transacting business.~~

24                   ~~(3) All action of the panel shall be by a majority vote of the~~  
25 ~~full membership of the panel.~~

26           ~~(h) For the purposes of access and equity, the panel shall make~~  
27 ~~recommendations to the Department of Education and the Department of Higher~~  
28 ~~Education regarding the rules for offering of advanced placement courses or~~  
29 ~~concurrent enrollment courses, or both.~~

30           ~~(i) The Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education~~  
31 ~~may jointly promulgate rules for offering of advanced placement courses or~~  
32 ~~concurrent enrollment courses, or both, based upon the recommendations of the~~  
33 ~~panel.~~

34           ~~(j)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall provide staff and~~  
35 ~~office space to the panel.~~

36                   ~~(2)(A) Members of the panel shall serve without pay.~~

~~(B) Members of the panel may receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-902, to be paid by the Department of Higher Education to the extent that money is available.~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 12 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-16-1207. Limitations.

Nothing in this subchapter shall limit or define concurrent enrollment courses offered for elective credit or upon agreement between a school or school district and a college if the courses are not required under this subchapter for any of the four (4) core areas of math, English, science, or social studies.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that many high school students benefit from participating in concurrent enrollment course; that this act is necessary to ensure that students continue to have the opportunity to enroll in concurrent enrollment classes; and that this act is immediately necessary to allow school districts sufficient time to plan schedules and hire staff prior to the 2005-2006 school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

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

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

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

*/s/ Abernathy, et al*