

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
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4

As Engrossed: H3/3/05 H3/25/05

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

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

Subtitle

17 AN ACT TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR
18 CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT COURSES THAT MAY
19 BE TAUGHT ALONG WITH ADVANCED PLACEMENT
20 COURSES IN HIGH SCHOOLS.
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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 that meets the requirements of §
4 6-16-1204(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 the chief academic officer of the college;
30 and

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

33
34 6-16-1204. Implementation of advanced placement courses.

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

1 courses to prepare students for the demands of advanced placement coursework.

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

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

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

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

9 (A) Taught from substantially the same book and syllabus
10 as is used at the college level; and

11 (B) Taught by an instructor with the qualifications set
12 forth under § 6-16-1203(b);

13 (C) Determined by the Concurrent Credit Course Approval
14 Committee to be of substantially equal or greater quality and rigor for a
15 high school student as is offered in an advanced placement course in the same
16 or similar subject area; and

17 (D) Available at no cost to the public school student.

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

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

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

30 (e) If a school district offers an endorsed concurrent enrollment
31 course, the school district shall be responsible for providing for the cost
32 of the tuition, books, and other required expenses related to the endorsed
33 current enrollment course for the district's students and the school district
34 and the institution of higher education may enter into agreements to provide
35 for the cost of the endorsed concurrent enrollment courses by any method
36 agreed upon by the school district and institution, including but not limited

1 to scholarships, grants, private donations, or tuition payment agreements.

2 (f) Any endorsed concurrent enrollment course as defined under § 6-16-
3 1202(2) shall be treated the same as an advanced placement course, including,
4 but not limited to, the following:

5 (1) Weighted credit; and

6 (2) The Arkansas Advanced Placement and Endorsed Concurrent
7 Enrollment Incentive Program Act of 1995.

8
9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1205 is amended to read as follows.

10 6-16-1205. Concurrent Enrollment Course Approval Panel.

11 (a) There is established a panel to be known as the "Concurrent
12 Enrollment Course Approval Panel".

13 (b) The panel shall consist of ~~six (6)~~ four (4) members as follows:

14 (1) ~~Three (3) persons~~ The Director of the Department of
15 Education or his or her designee and one (1) employee of the Department of
16 Education appointed by the Director of the Department of Education; and

17 (2) ~~Three (3)~~ The Director of the Department of Higher Education
18 or his or her designee and one (1) employee of the Department of Higher
19 Education appointed by the Director of the Department of Higher Education.

20 (c) The appointed panel members shall be:

21 (1) Knowledgeable regarding advanced placement coursework ~~or~~ and
22 concurrent enrollment coursework; and

23 (2) Residents of the State of Arkansas at the time of
24 appointment and throughout their terms.

25 (d) Members shall serve at the pleasure of the director making his or
26 her appointment.

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

30 (f)(1) Panel members appointed by the Director of the Department of
31 Education and the Director of the Department of Higher Education shall
32 alternate serving as chair of the panel each year.

33 (2) The Director of the Department of Education and the Director
34 of the Department of Higher Education shall alternate each year naming a
35 person to serve as chair of the panel.

36 (3) The Director of the Department of Education and the Director

1 of the Department of Higher Education shall draw lots to determine which
2 director shall first appoint a chair.

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

5 (2) A majority of the members of the panel shall constitute a
6 quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

7 (3) All action of the panel shall be by a majority vote of the
8 full membership of the panel.

9 (h) For the purposes of access and equity, the panel shall ~~make~~
10 ~~recommendations to the Department of Education and the Department of Higher~~
11 ~~Education regarding the rules for offering of advanced placement courses or~~
12 ~~concurrent enrollment courses, or both.;~~

13 (1) Develop and implement a procedure for school districts and
14 institutions of higher education to submit college courses for review by the
15 panel to determine if the college course is of substantially equal or greater
16 quality and rigor for a high school student as is offered in an advanced
17 placement course in the same or similar subject area; and

18 (2) Approve a concurrent enrollment course as an endorsed
19 concurrent enrollment course if the course is of substantially equal or
20 greater quality and rigor for a high school student as is offered in an
21 advanced placement course in the same or similar subject area.

22 ~~(i) The Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education~~
23 ~~may jointly promulgate rules for offering of advanced placement courses or~~
24 ~~concurrent enrollment courses, or both, based upon the recommendations of the~~
25 ~~panel.~~

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

28 ~~(2)(A)(i) Members of the panel shall serve without pay other~~
29 ~~than his or her regular salary for his or her current position with the~~
30 ~~respective departments.~~

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

34 (j) The terms of the members serving on the panel immediately prior to
35 the effective date of this subdivision, shall expire on the effective date of
36 this subdivision.

1
2 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 12 is amended
3 to add an additional section to read as follows:

4 6-16-1207. Limitations.

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

10
11 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 8 is amended
12 to read as follows:

13 6-16-801. Title.

14 This subchapter shall be known as and may be cited as the "Arkansas
15 Advanced Placement and Endorsed Concurrent Enrollment Incentive Program Act
16 of 1995".

17
18 6-16-802. Purpose.

19 (a) The purpose of this subchapter is to serve as a legislative
20 charter for the establishment, organization, and administration of a program
21 designed to improve the course offerings available to middle school, junior
22 high school, and high school students throughout the state.

23 (b) The program established under this subchapter will provide
24 advanced educational courses that are easily accessible and that will prepare
25 students for admission to and success in a postsecondary educational
26 environment.

27 (c) A key component in the program is adequately preparing teachers
28 and schools in providing advanced placement courses and endorsed concurrent
29 enrollment course as defined under § 6-16-1202(2) to their students.

30
31 6-16-803. Definitions.

32 As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

33 (1)(A) "Advanced placement course" means a high school level
34 preparatory course for a college advanced placement test that incorporates
35 all topics specified by the College Board and Educational Testing Service on
36 its standard syllabus for a given subject area and is approved by the College

1 Board and Educational Testing Service;

2 (B) "Preadvanced placement course" means a middle school,
3 junior high school, or high school level course that specifically prepares
4 students to enroll and participate in an advanced placement course;

5 (2) "Board" means the State Board of Education;

6 (3) "College advanced placement test" means the advanced
7 placement test administered by the College Board and Educational Testing
8 Service;

9 (4) "College Board" means the College Board and Educational
10 Testing Service;

11 (5) "Department" means the Department of Education;

12 (6) "Director" means the Director of the Department of
13 Education; ~~and~~

14 (7) "Endorsed concurrent enrollment course" means a concurrent
15 enrollment course as defined under § 6-16-1202(2); and

16 ~~(7) (8) "Program" means the Arkansas Advanced Placement Incentive~~
17 ~~Program.~~

18

19 6-16-804. Established - Subsidies - Rules and regulations.

20 (a) The Arkansas Advanced Placement and Endorsed Concurrent Enrollment
21 Incentive Program is hereby established, to be administered by the Director
22 of the Department of Education.

23 (b)(1) Contingent upon legislative appropriations and based on
24 criteria established by the department, schools participating in the program
25 may be awarded a one-time equipment and instructional materials grant for
26 providing an advanced placement course or a endorsed concurrent enrollment
27 course, or both.

28 (2) Contingent upon legislative appropriations, schools will be
29 awarded fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each score of three (3) or better earned
30 by a student on any advanced placement test or a grade of "C" or better in an
31 endorsed concurrent enrollment course. These funds shall be utilized in the
32 schools' advanced placement programs.

33 (c) Subject to legislative appropriations, a kindergarten through
34 twelve (K-12) public school teacher participating in the advanced placement,
35 an endorsed concurrent enrollment course program, or in the preadvanced
36 placement program may be awarded subsidized teacher training ~~for advanced~~

1 ~~placement courses~~ at a cost not to exceed six hundred fifty dollars (\$650)
2 per teacher.

3 (d)(1) The state will pay a share of the advanced placement test fee
4 not to exceed sixty-five dollars (\$65.00) and a stipend not to exceed sixty-
5 five dollars (\$65.00) to students enrolled in an endorsed concurrent
6 enrollment course.

7 (2) The State Board of Education shall create a sliding scale
8 based on family income.

9 (3) The state will pay fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each advanced
10 placement test taken as an economic supplement to each public school student
11 who takes more than two (2) advanced placement tests in one (1) year and an
12 additional stipend not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00) to students enrolled
13 in two (2) or more endorsed concurrent enrollment courses.

14 (4)(A) All students taking advanced placement courses must take
15 advanced placement tests or return the economic supplement.

16 (B) All students taking an endorsed concurrent enrollment
17 course must successfully complete the endorsed concurrent enrollment course
18 or return the economic supplement.

19 (e) The board is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations
20 necessary to implement this subchapter.

21
22 6-16-805. Funding.

23 (a) The awards and stipends granted under the provisions of this
24 subchapter for both advance placement and an endorsed concurrent enrollment
25 course may be funded by donations, grants, or legislative appropriation.

26 (b) All donations, grants, and appropriations received shall be
27 accounted for by the Department of Education.

28 (c) The Director of the Department of Education may solicit and
29 receive donations and grants for the purpose of making awards.

30
31 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
32 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that many high school students
33 benefit from participating in an endorsed concurrent enrollment courses; that
34 this act is necessary to ensure that students continue to have the
35 opportunity to enroll in concurrent enrollment classes; and that this act is
36 immediately necessary to allow school districts sufficient time to plan

1 schedules and hire staff prior to the 2005-2006 school year. Therefore, an
2 emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for
3 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become
4 effective on:

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

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

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

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/s/ Abernathy, et al