

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2771

4
5 By: Representative Mahony
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL LICENSURE PROGRAM
10 FOR TEACHERS WHO HAVE TAUGHT IN THE ART AND MUSIC
11 AREA FOR FIVE (5) YEARS OR MORE; AND FOR OTHER
12 PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

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15 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL LICENSURE
16 PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS WHO HAVE TAUGHT IN
17 THE ART AND MUSIC AREA FOR FIVE (5)
18 YEARS OR MORE.
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21 WHEREAS, the public schools in Arkansas are experiencing a shortage of
22 art and music teachers and are at the point of a crisis in finding teacher
23 with an Arkansas license and certification in art or music; and
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25 WHEREAS, some school districts are successfully providing appropriate
26 levels of art or music instruction to students utilizing Artists in Education
27 and other similar programs dedicated to providing fine arts education in
28 public schools,
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30 NOW THEREFORE,

31 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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33 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 4 is amended
34 to add an additional section to read as follows:

35 6-17-422. Art and music teachers.

36 (a) By May 1, 2005, the State Board of Education working with the



1 Department of Education shall:

2 (1) Establish a special licensure program that shall examine on
3 a case-by-case basis the abilities of a person who has taught in the art and
4 music area; and

5 (2) Establish criteria for licensing that the Standards for
6 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and other rules of the State Board
7 of Education, gives credit for degrees earned in the subject matter, length
8 of service in the public schools, and relies on recommendations of school
9 districts where these persons have taught for five (5) years or more.

10 (b) The Department of Education may award a teaching license and
11 certification to a teacher with fifteen (15) or more years' experience
12 teaching in an Arkansas public school and who has at least a bachelor's level
13 degree.

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15 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
16 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that beginning with the 2005-2006
17 school year districts are required to offer both art and music to students in
18 elementary school; that there are not sufficient numbers of certified art and
19 music teachers currently available to meet the needs of all school districts;
20 and that this act is immediately necessary because the state must provide a
21 mechanism to license qualified teachers prior to the beginning of 2005-2006
22 school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being
23 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and
24 safety shall become effective on:

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

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

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

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