

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.

State of Arkansas
85th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2005

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2865

By: Representatives Saunders, Roebuck

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE SOUTH ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL
LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT CENTER; TO PROVIDE ARKANSAS
WITH AN EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
ASSESSMENT PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO CREATE THE SOUTH ARKANSAS
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENT
CENTER.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 66, Subchapter 1 is amended
to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-66-116. South Arkansas Educational Leadership Assessment Center –
Created – Duties.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Leadership involves influencing others to understand and
agree on what needs to be done and how it can be done effectively, and
facilitates individual and collective efforts to accomplish the shared
objectives;

(2) Without high quality educational leadership, the reform
efforts proposed by the General Assembly may fall short of the intended
goals;

(3) The need for continuous improvement in identifying and
strengthening skills in educational leaders is the challenge of all
professional organizations and educational institutions;



1 (4) An effective and efficient way to identify and determine the
2 presence and strength of leadership skills for current and prospective
3 educational leaders is through an assessment center in which participants
4 engage in an integrated system of realistic, school-based simulations
5 designed to generate behaviors similar to those required for success in
6 grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) educational leadership positions;
7 and

8 (5) Trained assessors will:

9 (A) Objectively identify assessee's strengths and
10 development needs and indicate pertinent training needs;

11 (B) Offer developmentally based succession planning;

12 (C) Increase the best fit factors in placement and
13 selection decisions;

14 (D) Provide a strong feedback component and a structure
15 for individual development;

16 (E) Provide a focus for continued mentoring and coaching;
17 and

18 (F) Guide program design in developing effective programs
19 for aspiring and practicing educational leaders.

20 (b) There is established at Henderson State University, the South
21 Arkansas Educational Leadership Assessment Center.

22 (c) The President of Henderson State University shall designate a
23 member of the Educational Leadership faculty of Henderson State University as
24 director of the center.

25 (d)(1) Henderson State University shall provide staff, office, and
26 materials necessary to conduct the center to the extent funds are
27 appropriated.

28 (2) The director shall design the center in cooperation with
29 each of the Arkansas higher education educational leadership degree granting
30 institutions, the Arkansas Leadership Academy, the Department of Education,
31 the Department of Higher Education, the Arkansas Association of Educational
32 Administrators, and Arkansas educational service centers, and with the
33 approval of the President and the Board of Trustees of Henderson State
34 University.

35 (e) The South Arkansas Educational Leadership Assessment Center shall
36 develop and implement programs to:

1 (1) Train assessors with the knowledge and skills to conduct
2 assessment center activities as local demand dictates in all areas of
3 Arkansas;

4 (2) Engage participants in an integrated system of realistic,
5 school-based simulations designed to generate behaviors similar to those
6 required for success in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) educational
7 leadership positions;

8 (3) Provide a realistic job preview and measure participant's
9 skills as they actually engage in the tasks of an educational leader;

10 (4) Collaborate with each of the Arkansas higher education
11 educational leadership degree granting institutions, the Arkansas Leadership
12 Academy, the Department of Education, the Department of Higher Education, the
13 Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, and Arkansas educational
14 service centers;

15 (5) Identify prospective educational leaders;

16 (6) Provide focused professional development for new educational
17 leaders;

18 (7) Help experienced educational leaders plan their own
19 professional growth skills and strategies;

20 (8) Assist school districts in filling leadership vacancies with
21 qualified individuals;

22 (9) Address the shortage of qualified leaders by:

23 (A) Determining the leadership potential of prospective
24 and aspiring leaders; and

25 (B) Tailoring developmental programs on the basis of data
26 about individual skills and development;

27 (10) Provide diagnoses for effective and targeted professional
28 development;

29 (11) Base professional development on data about strength and
30 improvement needs; and

31 (12) Report at least quarterly to the President and the Board of
32 Trustees of Henderson State University and to the Arkansas Higher Education
33 Coordinating Board.