

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: H3/31/05

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2962

5 By: Representative Dobbins  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION  
10 COORDINATING BOARD TO DEVELOP A POLICY TO REQUIRE  
11 THE ALLOCATION OF A CERTAIN NUMBER OF ENROLLMENT  
12 POSITIONS TO ARKANSAS STUDENTS AMONG PROFESSIONAL  
13 OR GRADUATE SCHOOLS PARTICIPATING IN THE SOUTHERN  
14 REGIONAL EDUCATION COMPACT PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE  
15 THAT ENROLLMENT POSITIONS ALLOCATED TO ARKANSAS  
16 STUDENTS ARE DISTRIBUTED BASED ON DIVERSITY IN  
17 BACKGROUND, ETHNICITY, RACE, AND GENDER; AND FOR  
18 OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

21 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
22 POLICY FOR DIVERSITY IN ADMISSION OF  
23 QUALIFIED ARKANSAS STUDENTS TO  
24 PROFESSIONAL OR GRADUATE SCHOOLS  
25 PARTICIPATING IN THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL  
26 EDUCATION COMPACT PROGRAM.

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29 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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31 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-4-105 is amended to read as follows:  
32 6-4-105. Contracts for out-of-state education.

33 (a) As used in this section:

34 (1) "Participating institution" or "participating school" means  
35 a professional or graduate school that:

36 (A) Is located outside the State of Arkansas but within



1 the United States;

2 (B) Offers a full-time course of instruction in dentistry,  
3 optometry, veterinary medicine, podiatry, chiropractic, or osteopathy;

4 (C) Is accredited by an accrediting entity acceptable to  
5 the applicable licensing board of the profession;

6 (D) After completion of such course of instruction, grants  
7 a degree acceptable to the applicable licensing board as the sole requirement  
8 or as one (1) requirement for the board's granting of a professional license;  
9 and

10 (E) Is a party to a currently effective written agreement  
11 between the participating institution and the department or the Board of  
12 Control for Southern Regional Education; and

13 (2) "Qualified grantee" means a student who:

14 (A) Is a resident of the State of Arkansas;

15 (B) Has been accepted for enrollment at or is attending a  
16 participating accredited school of dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine,  
17 podiatry, osteopathy, or chiropractic located outside the State of Arkansas;  
18 and

19 (C) Has been certified under § 6-4-106 by the department  
20 as qualified to participate in the grant program authorized by § 6-81-1101.

21 ~~(a)~~(b) As agent for the state, the Arkansas Higher Education  
22 Coordinating Board shall contract with the Board of Control for Southern  
23 Regional Education in order that the latter may act to secure admission of  
24 Arkansas residents as students in institutions of higher learning operated by  
25 other states who are signatories of the compact.

26 ~~(b)~~(c)(1) Contract authority shall include the placing of students for  
27 study in the fields for which the board of control may maintain programs,  
28 including, but not limited to, veterinary medicine and dentistry.

29 (2)(A) The coordinating board shall develop a policy to require  
30 the allocation of a certain number of enrollment positions to qualified  
31 Arkansas students among participating institutions in the Southern Regional  
32 Education Compact Program. The policy shall provide a mechanism for ensuring  
33 that the enrollment positions allocated to Arkansas students are distributed  
34 among qualified grantees in a manner that promotes maximum diversity in  
35 background, ethnicity, race, and gender.

36 (B) The coordinating board shall propose the adoption of

1 the policy to the board of control no later than January 1, 2006, for initial  
2 implementation during the 2006-2007 school year.

3 ~~(e)~~(d)(1) The coordinating board shall contract to pay the board of  
4 control for Arkansas students accepted under this program.

5 (2) Provided, in no case will the contract price exceed the  
6 amount approved by the board of control.

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/s/ Dobbins