

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 H4/5/05

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 promote
30 the allocation of a certain number of enrollment positions to qualified
31 Arkansas students among participating institutions in the Arkansas Health
32 Education Grant Program. The policy shall provide a mechanism for promoting
33 a distribution for qualified grantees in a manner that promotes maximum
34 diversity in background, ethnicity, race, and gender.

35 (B) The coordinating board shall propose the adoption of
36 the policy to the board of control no later than January 1, 2006, for initial

1 implementation during the 2006-2007 school year.

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

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

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/s/ Dobbins

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