

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 86th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2007
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1517

5 By: Representatives Cook, Blount, T. Bradford, J. Johnson, Rainey, Saunders, Walters
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT IN CONCORDANCE WITH THE 2006 ACT 57 STUDY;
10 TO EXPAND MONITORING BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
11 EDUCATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF
12 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO EXPAND MONITORING BY THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF SCHOOL
16 DISTRICT IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL
17 IMPROVEMENT PLANS.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. ACT 57 COMPLIANCE.

24 The General Assembly declares this act to be in concordance with the
25 study of the state's system of public education conducted in 2006 by the
26 Adequacy Study Oversight Subcommittee, the Senate Interim Committee on
27 Education, and the House Interim Committee on Education in compliance with
28 Act 57 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2003.
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30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-426(e), concerning school improvement,
31 is amended to read as follows:

32 (e)(1) ~~Any~~ Each public school or school district ~~classified as in~~
33 ~~school improvement~~ shall develop and file with the department a ~~revised~~
34 comprehensive school improvement plan which shall be reviewed by the
35 department and shall be designed to ensure that all students have an
36 opportunity to demonstrate proficiency on all portions of the state-mandated



1 criterion-referenced tests.

2 (2) The comprehensive school improvement plan shall include:

3 (A) ~~strategies~~ Strategies to address the achievement gap
4 existing for any identifiable group or subgroup as identified in the program
5 and the gap of that subgroup from the academic standard; and

6 (B) Educational strategies for the use of categorical
7 funding provided under § 6-20-2305(b) for:

8 (i) Alternative learning environments;

9 (ii) Professional development;

10 (iii) English-language learners; and

11 (iv) National school lunch students.

12 (3) The department shall monitor a public school's compliance
13 with the comprehensive school improvement plan for the following, including
14 without limitation:

15 (A) The public school's use of instructional facilitators,
16 as that term is defined by the State Board of Education;

17 (B) The public school's use of categorical funding for
18 alternative learning environments, professional development, English-language
19 learners, and national school lunch students identifying specific:

20 (i) Educational strategies;

21 (ii) Resources used, including tutors, teachers'
22 aides, counselors, social workers, and nurses; and

23 (iii) Expenditures made from categorical funds
24 provided under § 6-20-2305(b);

25 (C) The school's implementation of programs for students
26 whose academic achievement is below proficient, including without limitation:

27 (i) Before-school academic programs and after-school
28 academic programs, including transportation to and from the programs;

29 (ii) Prekindergarten programs coordinated by the
30 Department of Health and Human Services;

31 (iii) Parent education programs;

32 (iv) Summer programs; and

33 (v) Early intervention programs; and

34 (D) The appropriate use by the school of the financial
35 management system applications of the Arkansas Public School Computer
36 Network.

1 (4) Any public school or school district classified as in school
2 improvement under § 6-15-425 shall develop and file with the department a
3 revised comprehensive school improvement plan meeting the requirements of
4 subdivision (e)(2) of this section and containing any additional requirements
5 determined necessary by the department to ensure that all students in the
6 public school or school district have an opportunity to demonstrate
7 proficiency on all portions of the state-mandated criterion-referenced tests.

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9 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
10 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that in order to ensure an adequate
11 education for all Arkansas public school students, public schools or school
12 districts should be required to file detailed school improvement plans with
13 the Department of Education, and the Department of Education should monitor
14 compliance with those plans; and that this act is immediately necessary
15 because the determination of educational strategies and the use of public
16 funds to develop and implement school improvement plans depends on early
17 planning by public school districts; that if these plans are not developed by
18 July 1, 2007, public school students in those schools and school districts
19 will not benefit from the proper implementation of the plans. Therefore, an
20 emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for
21 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become
22 effective on:

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

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

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

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