

State of Arkansas

86th General Assembly

Regular Session, 2007

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1633

By: Representatives Kenney, Abernathy, Blount, T. Bradford, Cheatham, Cook, Dickinson, Everett, Harris, J. Johnson, Lamoureux, M. Martin, Norton, Petrus, Pickett, Rainey, Rosenbaum, Saunders, Walters, Wood, Wagner

By: Senators Broadway, Critcher, Baker, Bookout, B. Johnson, Wilkins, Womack, Argue, Bisbee

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE ENHANCED EDUCATIONAL FUNDING BY  
SUPPLEMENTING THE AMOUNT OF PER STUDENT  
FOUNDATION FUNDING DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOL  
DISTRICTS FOR THE 2007-2008 AND 2008-2009 SCHOOL  
YEARS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ENHANCED  
EDUCATIONAL FUNDING BY SUPPLEMENTING THE  
AMOUNT OF PER STUDENT FOUNDATION FUNDING  
DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS FOR THE  
2007-2008 AND 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEARS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(a)(2)(A)-(C), concerning  
foundation funding is amended to read as follows:

(a)(2)(A) For the ~~2005-2006~~ 2007-2008 school year, the foundation  
funding amount is equal to ~~five thousand four hundred eighty-six dollars~~  
~~(\$5,486)~~ five thousand seven hundred nineteen dollars (\$5,719) multiplied by  
the school district's average daily membership for the previous school year.

(B) For the ~~2006-2007~~ 2008-2009 school year, the  
foundation funding amount is equal to ~~five thousand six hundred twenty~~  
~~dollars (\$5,620)~~ five thousand seven hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$5,789)



multiplied by the school district's average daily membership for the previous school year.

(C)(i) In accordance with the state's desire to foster educational excellence, in addition to the amounts determined by the General Assembly to be constitutionally adequate pursuant to subdivisions (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this section, and in addition to the funds distributed to school districts pursuant to subdivisions (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this section:

(a) For the 2007-2008 school year, fifty-one dollars (\$51.00) multiplied by the school district's average daily membership for the previous school year; and

(b) For the 2008-2009 school year, eighty-seven dollars (\$87.00) multiplied by the school district's average daily membership for the previous school year.

(ii) The additional funding provided by this subdivision (a)(2)(C):

(a) Shall be distributed by the department in eleven (11) monthly payments from funds appropriated by law and available for distribution as state foundation funding aid; and

(b) Shall be known as "Enhanced Educational Funding". The General Assembly has determined that Enhanced Educational Funding provided for by this subdivision (a)(2)(C) is in addition to, and in excess of, the amount of funds necessary to provide an adequate education as required by the Arkansas Constitution. The Enhanced Educational Funding is available from a combination of fortunate economic factors, conservative budgeting of all state government, and the favorable forecast of state revenues. As a result, the enhanced component of Enhanced Educational Funding cannot be ensured and may not be relied on beyond the 2007-2009 biennium.

~~(C) For the 2005-2006 school year and the 2006-2007 school year, the foundation funding amount provided under subdivisions (a)(2)(A) and (B) of this section shall be increased by forty two dollars (\$42.00) multiplied by the district's average daily membership for the previous school year to pay for increased school district costs resulting from the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 increases in the employer's rate of contribution to the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System from thirteen percent (13%) to fourteen percent (14%).~~

1        SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
2 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the 2006 Act 57 adequacy study  
3 recommended that foundation funding be increased for the 2007-2008 and 2008-  
4 2009 school years; that the method of calculating the state foundation  
5 funding aid should be changed to ensure that all public school districts  
6 receive the full amount of foundation funding plus an enhanced educational  
7 component of additional funding above and beyond adequate foundation funding;  
8 and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure that public school  
9 districts receive said funding for the 2007-2009 biennium. Therefore, an  
10 emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for  
11 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
12 effective on July 1, 2007.