

State of Arkansas
86th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2007

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1796

By: Representative Hawkins
By: Senator Malone

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES TO
PARTICIPATE IN THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
ACTIVITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO PROVIDE LEAVE FOR STATE
EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

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

SECTION 1. NOT TO BE CODIFIED. Legislative intent. The purpose of this act is to allow state employees an opportunity to participate in their children's educational activities by granting eight (8) hours of children's educational activity leave per calendar year.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 4, Subchapter 2 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

21-4-216. Leave for participation in children's educational activities.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Child" means a person enrolled in prekindergarten through grade 12 (preK-12) who is of the following relation to a state employee:

(A) Natural child;

(B) Adopted child;

(C) Stepchild;



1 (D) Foster child;
 2 (E) Grandchild;
 3 (F) Ward of the state employee by virtue of the state
 4 employee having been appointed the person's legal guardian or custodian; or
 5 (G) Any other legal capacity where the employee is acting
 6 as a parent for the child;

7 (2)(A) "Educational activity" means any school-sponsored
 8 activity.

9 (B) "Educational activity" includes without limitation:
 10 (i) A parent-teacher conference;
 11 (ii) Participation in school-sponsored tutoring;
 12 (iii) Participation in a school-sponsored volunteer
 13 program;
 14 (iv) A field trip;
 15 (v) A classroom program;
 16 (vi) A school committee meeting;
 17 (vii) An academic competition; and
 18 (viii) Assisting with athletic, music, or theater
 19 programs;

20 (3) "State agency" means an agency, a bureau, a board, or a
 21 commission of any branch of state government and all state-supported
 22 institutions of higher education; and

23 (4) "State employee" means a full-time employee of the State of
 24 Arkansas or any branch, department, board, bureau, commission, or state-
 25 supported institution of higher education.

26 (b)(1) All state employees shall be entitled to eight (8) hours of
 27 leave during any one (1) calendar year for the purpose of attending or
 28 assisting with the educational activities of a child.

29 (2) Leave under subdivision (b)(1) of this section:

30 (A) That is unused may not be carried over to the next
 31 calendar year; and

32 (B) Is not compensable to the state employee at the time
 33 of retirement.

34
 35 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
 36 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that this act adds to the

1 provisions of the Uniform Attendance and Leave Policy Act and that the ideal
2 time to implement this change to the state's leave policies is at the
3 beginning of the state's fiscal year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to
4 exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace,
5 health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2007.