

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 2402

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

9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE HOME INSTRUCTION FOR  
10 PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS PROGRAM ("HIPPY")  
11 AS THE PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMPONENT FOR ALL  
12 PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS IN ARKANSAS THAT RECEIVE  
13 FEDERAL FUNDS; TO ENGAGE THE STATE HIPPY STAFF  
14 AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN DEVELOPING THE  
15 METHODS NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS  
16 PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PROCESS; AND FOR OTHER  
17 PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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20 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE HOME INSTRUCTION  
21 FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL YOUNGSTERS  
22 PROGRAM AS A PARENT INVOLVEMENT  
23 COMPONENT OF ALL FEDERALLY-FUNDED  
24 ARKANSAS PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS.  
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26

27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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### 29 SECTION 1. Purpose and Findings.

30 (a) The purpose of this act is to increase literacy from preschool  
31 through adulthood, ensuring that the parent as the child's first teacher is  
32 literate and successful as a teaching parent.

33 (b) Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) is an  
34 international parent involvement program for preschool parents and has a  
35 proven track record of improving the literacy of parents and their children.

36 (c) Children who have parental support at home are more successful in



1 school, and are less likely to dropout and engage in at-risk behaviors.

2 (d) Children who start school without the basic skills needed in first  
 3 grade are more likely to experience academic, social and emotional problems.

4 (e) Alternative education, special education, and supplemental  
 5 services programs have an increased number of referrals due in part to a lack  
 6 of parental involvement and poor student academic performance. Discipline  
 7 problems and prison populations have increased, and parent involvement in  
 8 schools has decreased.

9 (f) Teaching parents how to help their children before they start  
 10 school establishes a pattern of parental support for education and increases  
 11 the probability that the parents will follow that pattern as long as the  
 12 child is in school.

13 (g) Many parents have improved their literacy skills, gone back to  
 14 school, and entered the work force.

15 (h) Higher education needs to provide more remediation and tutorial  
 16 programs due to the lack of preparedness of college students.

17 (i) The federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLBA) provides for parent  
 18 involvement for school programs, and the addition of preschool programs  
 19 during this reauthorization period for NCLBA would be a wonderful advancement  
 20 for the state of Arkansas as the leader of this new educational concept.

21 (j) The Department of Workforce Education and the Department of Health  
 22 and Human Services shall be a part of this initiative because a number of  
 23 their clients will benefit from the effort.

24 (k) The economic growth of the state is dependent upon the academic  
 25 level and the employable skills of the workforce. This assurance must start  
 26 with preschool parents and their children.

27  
 28 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 3 is amended  
 29 to add an additional section read as follows:

30 6-16-314. Parental involvement.

31 (a) Each early childhood program in this state that receives federal  
 32 funds shall include the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters  
 33 program as a parental involvement component of the early childhood program.

34 (b) The Department of Health and Human Services shall establish rules  
 35 to implement the parental involvement component of early childhood programs,  
 36 with the cooperation and assistance of the Department of Workforce Education.