

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

As Engrossed: H3/23/07

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2481

5 By: Representative Harris
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ARKANSAS FAMILIES WITH AN
10 ALTERNATIVE FOR ACCESSING EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
11 TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO PROVIDE ARKANSAS FAMILIES WITH
15 AN ALTERNATIVE FOR ACCESSING EDUCATIONAL
16 RESOURCES TO IMPROVE STUDENT ACADEMIC
17 ACHIEVEMENT.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-47-403 is amended to read as follows:
24 6-47-403. Definitions.

25 As used in this subchapter:

26 (1) "Blended school" means a program offered by a public school
27 district or charter school in which students receive curriculum instruction
28 on-site for a designated period of time and receive instruction in a virtual
29 or remote setting via Internet-based curriculum;

30 ~~(1) "Board" means the State Board of Education;~~

31 ~~(2) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Education;~~

32 ~~(3) "Department" means the Department of Education;~~

33 ~~(4)~~(2) "Distance learning" means an interactive
34 telecommunications system that utilizes information technology, audio, video,
35 and similar technological elements, is compatible with other distance
36 learning networks, and is used for the purpose of enhancing instructional



1 opportunities in Arkansas public schools;

2 ~~(5)(3)~~ "Infrastructure" means an interlinked system of wires,
3 cables, fiber optics, or other wireline or wireless communications media;

4 ~~(6)(4)~~ "Program" means the Arkansas Distance Learning
5 Development Project; and

6 ~~(7)(5)~~ "Public telecommunications" means the facilities used in
7 providing telecommunication services to the public, including, but not
8 limited to, facilities owned and operated by public utilities.

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10 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-47-406(g), concerning distance learning
11 in public schools and open-enrollment charter schools, is amended to read as
12 follows:

13 ~~(g)(1) No public school district or open-enrollment charter school~~
14 ~~shall establish or provide a virtual school or distance learning course~~
15 ~~except as allowed by this section~~ A public school district or an open-
16 enrollment charter school may offer a blended school program.

17 (2) The state board shall establish rules for approving online
18 curriculum and providers.

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20 /s/ Harris

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