

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 2663

5 By: Representatives Kenney, Abernathy, Cook
6 By: Senators Argue, Broadway
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO CREATE THE CONTINUING ADEQUACY
11 EVALUATION ACT OF 2007; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

Subtitle

15 THE CONTINUING ADEQUACY EVALUATION ACT
16 OF 2007.
17

18
19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
20

21 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2102, concerning the General*
22 *Assembly's duties for conducting a continuing evaluation of the state's*
23 *system of public education, is amended to add additional subsections to read*
24 *as follows:*

25 *(f) The study for subdivisions (a)(1)-(4) of this section shall be*
26 *accomplished by:*

27 *(1) Reviewing a report prepared by the Division of Legislative*
28 *Audit compiling all funding received by public schools for each program;*

29 *(2) Reviewing the curriculum frameworks developed by the*
30 *Department of Education;*

31 *(3) Reviewing the Arkansas Comprehensive Testing, Assessment,*
32 *and Accountability Program, § 6-15-401 et seq.;*

33 *(4) Reviewing fiscal, academic, and facilities distress*
34 *programs;*

35 *(5) Reviewing the state's standing under the No Child Left*
36 *Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C.S. § 6301 et seq.;*



1 (6) Reviewing the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan
2 process; and

3 (7) Reviewing the specific programs identified for further study
4 by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee
5 on Education.

6 (g)(1) The study for subdivision (a)(5) of this section shall be
7 accomplished by comparing the average teacher salary in Arkansas with
8 surrounding states and Southern Regional Education Board member states,
9 including without limitation:

10 (A) Comparing teacher salaries as adjusted by a cost of
11 living index or a comparative wage index;

12 (B) Reviewing the minimum teacher compensation salary
13 schedule; and

14 (C) Reviewing any related topics identified for further
15 study by the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim
16 Committee on Education.

17 (2) Depending on the availability of National Education
18 Association data on teacher salaries in other states, the teacher salary
19 comparison may be prepared as a supplement to the report after September 1.

20 (h) The study for subdivision (a)(6) of this section shall be
21 accomplished by reviewing:

22 (1) Expenditures from:

23 (A) Isolated school funding;

24 (B) National school lunch student funding;

25 (C) Declining enrollment funding;

26 (D) Student growth funding;

27 (E) Special education funding;

28 (2) Disparities in teacher salaries; and

29 (3) Any related topics identified for further study by the House
30 Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education.

31 (i) The study for subdivision (a)(7) of this section shall be
32 accomplished by:

33 (1) Completing an expenditure analysis and resource allocation
34 review each biennium; and

35 (2) Reviewing any related topics identified for further study by
36 the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on

1 Education.

2 (j) The study for subdivision (a)(8) of this section shall be
3 accomplished by:

4 (1) Using evidence-based research as the basis for recalibrating
5 as necessary the state’s system of funding public education;

6 (2) Adjusting for the inflation or deflation of any appropriate
7 component of the system of funding public education every two (2) years; and

8 (3) Reviewing any related topics identified for further study by
9 the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on
10 Education.

11
12 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 10-3-2104, concerning the report of the
13 House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on
14 Education regarding the study of the adequacy of the state’s system of public
15 education, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

16 (c) The report shall be supplemented as needed to accomplish the
17 purposes of this continuing evaluation.

18
19 SECTION 3. NOT TO BE CODIFIED. The purpose of this act is to
20 strengthen and preserve the integrity of the Continuing Adequacy Evaluation
21 Act of 2004, Arkansas Code § 10-3-2101 et seq., by further defining its
22 provisions to ensure that future assessments, evaluations, and monitoring of
23 the state’s public education system by the General Assembly will continue to
24 be conducted in a thorough, well-informed and meaningful manner.

25
26 /s/ Kenney, et al
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36