

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 2736

5 By: Representatives J. Roebuck, Abernathy, Stewart
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE TASK
10 FORCE ON HIGHER EDUCATION REMEDIATION, RETENTION,
11 AND GRADUATION RATES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE
12 APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS; TO DESCRIBE ITS
13 MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.
15

Subtitle

16 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS
17 LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON HIGHER
18 EDUCATION REMEDIATION, RETENTION, AND
19 GRADUATION RATES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE
20 APPOINTMENT OF ITS MEMBERS; TO DESCRIBE
21 ITS MISSION AND RESPONSIBILITIES.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 10, Chapter 3 is amended to add an
28 additional subchapter to read as follows:

29 10-3-2401. Title.

30 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas
31 Legislative Task Force on Higher Education Remediation, Retention, and
32 Graduation rates".
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34 10-3-2402. Creation.

35 (a) There is created the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Higher
36 Education Remediation, Retention, and Graduation Rates.



1 (b) The task force shall consist of the following fifteen (15)
 2 members:

3 (1) The Governor or the Governor's designee;

4 (2) The Chair of the House Interim Committee on Education or the
 5 chair's designee;

6 (3) The Chair of the Senate Interim Committee on Education or
 7 the Chair's designee;

8 (4) The Chair of the Higher Education Subcommittee of the
 9 Arkansas Legislative Council or the Chair's designee;

10 (5) The Director of the Department of Higher Education, or the
 11 director's designee;

12 (6) The Commissioner of Education or the Commissioner's
 13 designee;

14 (7) The President of the Arkansas Education Association or the
 15 president's designee;

16 (8) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Association of
 17 Educational Administrators or the executive director's designee;

18 (9) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Association of Two-
 19 Year Colleges or the executive director's designee;

20 (10) Four (4) faculty members with specialized knowledge, skills
 21 or experience in the area of remediation representing institutions of higher
 22 education with one (1) from each of the four (4) congressional districts
 23 appointed by the Director of Higher Education.

24 (11) A Vice president or Provost of Academic Affairs appointed
 25 by the Director of Higher Education; and

26 (12) The Vice-president of Academic Affairs at a two-year higher
 27 education institution at a four-year higher education institution appointed
 28 by the Director of Higher Education.

29 (c)(1) The Chair of the House Interim Committee on Education or the
 30 chair's designee shall call the first meeting within thirty (30) days of the
 31 effective date of this act and shall serve as chair at the first meeting.

32 (2) At the first meeting, the members of the task force shall
 33 elect from its membership a chair and other officers as needed for the
 34 transaction of its business.

35 (3)(A) The task force shall conduct its meetings in Pulaski
 36 County at the State Capitol.

1 (B) Meetings shall be held at least one (1) time every
2 three (3) months but may occur more often at the call of the chair.

3 (d) If any vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy shall be
4 filled by the same process as the original appointment.

5 (e) The task force shall establish rules and procedures for conducting
6 its business.

7 (f) Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but
8 may receive expense reimbursement according to § 25-16-902.

9 (g) A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a
10 quorum for transacting any business of the task force.

11 (h) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff for the
12 task force.

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14 10-3-2403. Duties.

15 The Arkansas Legislative Task Higher Education Remediation, Retention,
16 and Graduation Rates shall:

17 (1) Compile information on research that has been done in
18 Arkansas and nationally on reducing remediation, improving retention, and
19 increasing graduation rates;

20 (2) Summarize data on rates of remediation, types of testing
21 used to determine college readiness, and characteristics of programs that are
22 most effective in addressing skill deficits, and data on effectiveness of
23 remediation for students with entering skill deficits;

24 (3) Create a definition of remediation to assure consistency in
25 reporting of remediation among colleges and universities throughout Arkansas;

26 (4) Identify the underlying factors that contribute to the
27 number of students who are not ready for collegiate level classes in certain
28 disciplines at the time of high school graduation;

29 (5) Identify best practices examples of school systems and
30 colleges that are having success in reducing the need for remedial education;

31 (6) Brainstorm new approaches that may be effective in producing
32 increased levels of college readiness;

33 (7) Attempt to clarify the role that various types of colleges
34 and universities should play in addressing the need for remediation;

35 (8) Review graduation rates of the state's colleges and
36 universities for the past six (6) years;

1 (9) Develop a set of written recommendations for the General
2 Assembly that will improve remediation, retention, and graduation rates at
3 the state's colleges and universities; and

4 (10) Present the written recommendations of the Task Force to
5 the General Assembly by November 1, 2008.

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7 10-3-2404. Expiration of Task Force.
8 The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Higher Education Remediation,
9 Retention, and Graduation rates shall cease to exist effective January 1,
10 2009.

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