

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: S2/15/07

A Bill

SENATE BILL 203

5 By: Senators Madison, *Baker*
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE REQUIREMENT THAT COLLEGE
10 JUNIORS TAKE THE COLLEGIATE ASSESSMENT OF
11 ACADEMIC PROFICIENCY EXAM, THE "RISING JUNIOR
12 EXAM"; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO REPEAL THE RISING JUNIOR EXAM.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-114 is repealed.

21 ~~6-61-114. Standardized rising junior test—Annual report.~~

22 ~~(a)(1) Until such time as the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating~~
23 ~~Board approves other assessment processes or exams to be used by Arkansas~~
24 ~~colleges and universities, the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency~~
25 ~~Exam, known as the "rising junior exam", shall be the required exam to be~~
26 ~~taken by all Arkansas public college and university students at the end of~~
27 ~~the sophomore year to evaluate student learning in the general education~~
28 ~~curriculum established under § 6-61-218, the results of which shall be~~
29 ~~evaluated in light of each institution's mission and goals.~~

30 ~~(2)(A) On or before the October 2001 meeting of the board, the~~
31 ~~Department of Higher Education shall recommend to the board criteria and~~
32 ~~guidelines to use when considering the adequacy of other assessment processes~~
33 ~~or exams proposed for use at Arkansas public colleges and universities in~~
34 ~~lieu of the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency Exam.~~

35 ~~(B) The criteria and guidelines proposed by the department~~
36 ~~shall be developed in consultation with the Executive Council of the~~



1 ~~Presidents Council.~~

2 ~~(3) After receiving the recommendation of the department, the~~
3 ~~board shall promulgate rules and set guidelines for approving alternative~~
4 ~~processes or exams for use by Arkansas public colleges and universities in~~
5 ~~lieu of the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency Exam and shall~~
6 ~~provide the guidelines to the Arkansas public colleges and universities.~~

7 ~~(4) After the board has adopted rules and guidelines, public~~
8 ~~colleges and universities may request approval of other assessment processes~~
9 ~~or exams to be taken by that institution's students or used by the~~
10 ~~institution at the end of the sophomore year to evaluate student learning in~~
11 ~~the general education curriculum established under § 6-61-218, the results of~~
12 ~~which shall be evaluated in light of each institution's mission and goals.~~

13 ~~(b) Except as provided in subsection (a) of this section, the "rising~~
14 ~~junior test" shall be given annually by all public colleges and universities~~
15 ~~in Arkansas, with the first statewide administration to take place by the end~~
16 ~~of the 1994-1995 academic year.~~

17 ~~(c) The board, after consultation with the public colleges and~~
18 ~~universities, is hereby authorized to adopt policies and procedures to~~
19 ~~implement this section.~~

20 ~~(d) These policies and procedures shall be implemented by the public~~
21 ~~colleges and universities as a condition of receiving state funds.~~

22 ~~(e)(1) The board shall report the statewide test results on an annual~~
23 ~~basis to the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim~~
24 ~~Committee on Education.~~

25 ~~(2) The board shall provide a status report regarding approval~~
26 ~~of alternative processes or exams as set forth in subsection (a) of this~~
27 ~~section to the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim~~
28 ~~Committee on Education on or before December 31, 2002.~~

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30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-82-311(c), concerning the Arkansas
31 Governor's Scholarship and the Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship,
32 is amended to read as follows:

33 (c) Provided sufficient funds are available, a scholarship shall be
34 awarded for one (1) academic year and renewed annually for three (3)
35 additional academic years if the following conditions for renewal are met:

36 (1) The student maintains not less than a 3.0 grade point

1 average on a 4.0 scholastic grading scale;

2 (2) A student receiving the additional scholarship under § 6-82-
3 312(b) maintains not less than a 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 scholastic
4 grading scale;

5 (3) The recipient has completed a total of at least twenty-seven
6 (27) hours during the first full academic year and, if applicable, a total of
7 at least thirty (30) hours per academic year thereafter; and

8 ~~(4) If the student is entering the junior year, the student has~~
9 ~~taken the standardized rising junior test provided for in § 6-61-114; and~~

10 ~~(5)~~ The recipient has met any other continuing eligibility
11 criteria established by the Department of Higher Education.

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13 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-82-1006(b), concerning the Arkansas
14 Academic Challenge Scholarship Program, is amended to read as follows:

15 (b) A recipient who graduated from high school after December 31,
16 2000, shall receive a scholarship for one (1) academic year renewable for up
17 to three (3) additional academic years if the recipient meets the following
18 continuing eligibility criteria:

19 (1) The recipient earns a cumulative grade point average of 2.75
20 or above on a 4.0 scale at an approved institution;

21 (2) The recipient has completed a total of at least twenty-seven
22 (27) hours during the first full academic year and a total of at least thirty
23 (30) hours per academic year thereafter; and

24 ~~(3) If the student is entering the junior year, the student has~~
25 ~~taken the standardized rising junior test provided for in § 6-61-114; and~~

26 ~~(4)~~ The recipient meets any other continuing eligibility
27 criteria established by the department.

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29 /s/ Madison
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