

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.

State of Arkansas  
86th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2007

As Engrossed: H3/28/07

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 837

By: Senators Argue, Baker  
By: Representative Kenney

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE UP TO *THREE HUNDRED (300)*  
ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARSHIPS;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

*TO PROVIDE UP TO THREE HUNDRED (300)*  
*ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S DISTINGUISHED*  
*SCHOLARSHIPS.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-82-308 is amended to read as follows:

6-82-308. Number and geographic distribution of scholarships.

(a) If sufficient funds are available, effective for students receiving their initial awards beginning in fall ~~2005~~ 2007, the number of initial scholarship awards to eligible high achievers shall not exceed ~~three hundred twenty-five (325)~~ three hundred seventy-five (375) each year, to be distributed as follows;

(1) Up to ~~two hundred fifty (250)~~ three hundred (300) Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarships; and

(2)(A) Seventy-five (75) Arkansas Governor's Scholarships at four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per year.

(B) The seventy-five (75) Arkansas Governor's Scholarships shall be awarded to one (1) student in each of the seventy-five (75) counties in Arkansas.



1       ~~(b)(1) Effective for students receiving their initial awards beginning~~  
2 ~~in fall 2004, up to two hundred fifty (250) initial Arkansas Governor's~~  
3 ~~Distinguished Scholarship awards and twenty five (25) initial Arkansas~~  
4 ~~Governor's Scholarship awards may be provided if, at the end of the calendar~~  
5 ~~year 2001 and each year thereafter, the Department of Higher Education can~~  
6 ~~demonstrate, based on economic projections and revenue forecasts relative to~~  
7 ~~the number of Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship recipients then~~  
8 ~~receiving the scholarship, that sufficient funds are available for that~~  
9 ~~purpose.~~

10       ~~(2)(b)(1)~~ A report of the same that demonstrates based on economic  
11 projections and revenue forecasts that sufficient funds are available to  
12 award scholarships to high achievers relative to the number of Academic  
13 Challenge Scholarship recipients shall be submitted to the House Interim  
14 Committee on Education, ~~and~~ the Senate Interim Committee on Education, and  
15 the Legislative Council for review prior to obligating the funds.

16       ~~(3)(2)~~ Should a shortfall of funds be projected, the department  
17 Department of Higher Education shall promulgate ~~regulations~~ rules for the  
18 priority funding of these scholarships and submit these proposed ~~regulations~~  
19 rules to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board for a public  
20 hearing and to the ~~Legislative Council through its~~ Subcommittee on  
21 Administrative Rules and Regulations Subcommittee of the Legislative Council  
22 for review before implementing the regulations rules.

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24       SECTION 2. (a) The Department of Higher Education is authorized to  
25 award scholarships to students who are accepted to a Washington, D.C. public  
26 policy academic internship if funding is appropriated and available.

27       (b) The Department of Higher Education may promulgate rules to  
28 administer this section.

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30       SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
31 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that new scholarships under the  
32 Arkansas Governor's scholarship program need to be awarded to students  
33 graduating in May of 2007; that the Department of Higher Education needs  
34 sufficient time to solicit and receive scholarship applications; and that  
35 this act is immediately necessary to ensure the proper administration of the  
36 scholarship program. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this

1 act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and  
2 safety shall become effective on:

3 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

4 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
5 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
6 bill; or

7 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
8 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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10 /s/ Argue  
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