

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 981

4
5 By: Senator Wilkins
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 2007;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13 ACCESS TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF
14 2007.
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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19 Whereas, there are children of undocumented immigrants who have lived
20 in Arkansas most of their lives; and
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22 Whereas, most of these children have spent their formative years in
23 Arkansas elementary and secondary schools; and
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25 Whereas, many of these children have proven their academic ability by
26 graduating from an Arkansas high school; and
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28 Whereas, many of these children are precluded from accessing an
29 affordable college education because they do not qualify for in-state tuition
30 rates or state-supported scholarships; and
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32 Whereas, educational opportunities should be offered to all children so
33 they may contribute to the future economic viability of Arkansas,
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35 NOW THEREFORE,
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1 SECTION 1. (a) This act shall be known as the "Access to
2 Postsecondary Education Act of 2007".

3 (b) Any tuition rate that is granted to residents of Arkansas shall be
4 granted on the same terms to all persons, regardless of immigration status,
5 who have attended a secondary educational institution in Arkansas for at
6 least three (3) years and who have either graduated from an Arkansas high
7 school or received a general education diploma in the state.

8 (c) In addition to the requirements under subdivision (b) of this
9 section, a student without documented status shall file an affidavit with the
10 state-supported institution of higher education stating that the student has
11 an intent to legalize his or her immigration status.

12 (d) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall promulgate
13 the rules necessary for implementation of this act.

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