

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 87th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2009

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2144

4  
5 By: Representative Cook  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT AMENDING THE PREREQUISITES FOR HOME  
10 SCHOOLING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

### Subtitle

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13 AMENDING THE PREREQUISITES FOR HOME  
14 SCHOOLING.  
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-503(a), concerning prerequisites for  
20 home schooling, is amended to read as follows:

21 (a)(1) Parents or guardians desiring to provide a home school for  
22 their children must give written notice to the superintendent of their local  
23 school district of their intent to provide a home school for their children,  
24 ~~and~~ sign a waiver acknowledging that the State of Arkansas is not liable for  
25 the education of their children during the time that the parents choose to  
26 home school, and provide a copy of proof of the most recent state-mandated  
27 achievement test:

28 (A) ~~At the beginning~~ No later than August 15 immediately  
29 preceding the beginning of each the school year ~~but no later than August 15;~~  
30 or

31 (B) By ~~December 15~~ December 1 for parents who decide to  
32 start home schooling at the beginning of the spring semester; ~~or~~

33 ~~(C) Subject to the provisions of subsection (d) of this~~  
34 ~~section, fourteen (14) calendar days prior to withdrawing the children from~~  
35 ~~the local school district and at the beginning of each school year~~  
36 ~~thereafter. The superintendent or the local school board of directors may~~



1 ~~waive the fourteen day waiting period.~~

2 (2)(A) A Parent or guardian desiring to start home schooling on  
 3 a date other than the beginning of a school semester shall file an  
 4 application with his or her local school district.

5 (B) The local school district shall form a committee to  
 6 consider an application under this subdivision (a)(2) consisting of:

7 (i) The counselor of the school the child is  
 8 presently attending or would attend;

9 (ii) The principal or assistant principal of the  
 10 school the child is presently attending or would attend; and

11 (iii) One (1) of the child's current teachers.

12 (C)(i) The committee shall approve or disapprove the  
 13 application to start home schooling on a date other than the beginning of a  
 14 school semester of this section within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the  
 15 application.

16 (ii) The committee shall not consider whether to  
 17 approve or disapprove an application if:

18 (a) A delinquency, family in need of services,  
 19 or dependency-neglect action has been commenced concerning the child within  
 20 three (3) months of the date of the application;

21 (b) The child is currently under disciplinary  
 22 action for violation of any written school policy, including without  
 23 limitation excessive unexcused absences; or

24 (c) The child is truant at the time of the  
 25 application.

26 (iii) The committee shall consider information  
 27 provided by the parent of the child in making its determination.

28 (D) The Department of Education shall develop a form to be  
 29 used for applications under this subdivision (a)(2).

30 ~~(2)(3)~~ Within thirty (30) calendar days of establishing  
 31 residency within the school district, parents or guardians moving into the  
 32 school district during the school year must give written notice to the  
 33 superintendent of their local school district of their intent to provide a  
 34 home school for their children and sign a waiver acknowledging that the State  
 35 of Arkansas is not liable for the education of their children during the time  
 36 that the parents choose to home school.

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~~(3)~~(4) The notice must include:

- (A) The name, date of birth, grade level, and name and address of the school last attended, if any, of each student involved;
- (B) The location of the home school;
- (C) The basic core curriculum to be offered;
- (D) The proposed schedule of instruction; and
- (E) The qualifications of the parent-teacher.

~~(4)~~(5) Parents or guardians shall deliver written notice in person to the superintendent of their local school district the first time such notice is given.