

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 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: S2/16/11
A Bill

SENATE BILL 67

5 By: Senators J. Jeffress, G. Baker
6

7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 AN ACT TO REESTABLISH THE JOINT INTERIM OVERSIGHT
9 COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION REFORM; AND FOR OTHER
10 PURPOSES.
11

12 **Subtitle**

13 TO REESTABLISH THE JOINT INTERIM
14 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
15 REFORM.
16
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
19

20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-102(g)(1), concerning public school
21 accountability, is amended to read as follows:

22 (g)(1) The division shall provide annual reports of school performance
23 or compliance to the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education
24 Reform, the House Interim Committee on Education, and the Senate Interim
25 Committee on Education.
26

27 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-63-104(a), concerning faculty performance
28 review, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a) The president and chancellor of each state-supported institution
30 of higher education in Arkansas shall work with the campus faculties to
31 develop a framework to review faculty performance, including post-tenure
32 review. The framework should be used to develop processes and procedures at
33 each institution to ensure a consistently high level of performance of the
34 faculty at Arkansas' publicly supported institutions of higher education. The
35 effects of the review process of faculty performance should include rewarding
36 productive faculty, redirecting faculty efforts to improve or to increase



1 productivity, and correcting instances of substandard performance. The
2 framework developed by each institution shall be reported to the House
3 Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim Committee on Education,
4 the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education Reform, and the
5 Department of Higher Education no later than December 1, 1998, and shall be
6 implemented on the respective campuses no later than January 1, 2001.

7
8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1601 is amended to read as follows:
9 10-3-1601. Creation – Members.

10 (a) To assist the General Assembly, there is established the “Joint
11 Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education Reform” to be composed of the
12 following members:

13 (1) Seven (7) members of the Senate to be appointed by the Chair
14 of the Senate Committee on Education, in consultation with the President Pro
15 Tempore of the Senate; and

16 (2) Seven (7) members of the House of Representatives to be
17 appointed by the Chair of the House Committee on Education, in consultation
18 with the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

19 (b) In making their appointments, the Chair of the Senate Committee on
20 Education and the Chair of the House Committee on Education shall seek to
21 ensure that members who are knowledgeable about all types of educational
22 issues and who represent all geographic regions of the state shall serve on
23 the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education Reform.

24 (c) The Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education Reform
25 shall be assisted by staff provided by the Bureau of Legislative Research.

26 (d) Members of the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Higher
27 Education Reform shall be entitled to receive per diem and expenses for their
28 attendance at committee meetings at the same rate as members of the General
29 Assembly receive for attendance at meetings of interim committees.

30 (e) The members appointed to the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on
31 Higher Education Reform shall select a Senate cochair and a House cochair who
32 shall serve for a two-year term during the interim.

33
34 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 10-3-1602 is amended to read as follows:
35 10-3-1602. Duties.

36 The duties of the Joint Interim Oversight Committee on Higher Education

1 Reform shall include, ~~but are not limited to, the following~~ without
2 limitation:

3 (1) Reviewing policy issues regarding the creation and implementation
4 of ~~acceptability~~ accountability systems for the state *system of postsecondary*
5 *education*, including ~~the review of any regulatory~~ without limitation:

6 (A) Cost containment;

7 (B) Tuition and fees;

8 (C) Program and degree productivity; and

9 (D) Regulatory changes proposed by the appropriate agencies of
10 the executive branch or any boards or commissions ~~prior to~~ before their
11 implementation;

12 (2) Reviewing policy issues affecting postsecondary educational reform
13 on or before November 15 of the year preceding a regular session and making
14 recommendations concerning any necessary legislative changes proposed by
15 ~~school districts, cooperatives,~~ institutions of higher education, the
16 Department of Education, the State Board of Education, the Department of
17 Career Education, the State Board of Career Education, the Department of
18 Higher Education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the
19 Governor's office, and private institutions;

20 (3) Providing recommendations regarding use of state and federal funds
21 in postsecondary education;

22 (4) Reviewing and assuring coordination between the ~~school districts,~~
23 ~~cooperatives,~~ institutions of higher education, the Department of Education,
24 the State Board of Education, the Department of Career Education, the State
25 Board of Career Education, the Department of Higher Education, the Arkansas
26 Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Governor's office, and private
27 institutions; and

28 (5) Evaluating innovative education projects and promoting the
29 adoption of successful projects in institutions of higher education.

30

31

/s/J. Jeffress

32

33

34

35

36