

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011  
4

*As Engrossed: S3/3/11*  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 737

5 By: Senator L. Chesterfield  
6

7 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

8 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE  
9 REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
10 EDUCATION AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION; TO  
11 REQUIRE THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT TO BE  
12 MADE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
13 EDUCATION AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS; TO REQUIRE  
14 INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN ACT  
15 TESTING AND COLLEGE PREPARATORY ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS  
16 (CPEP) IN THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT; AND  
17 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

18  
19  
20 **Subtitle**

21 TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE ANNUAL SCHOOL  
22 PERFORMANCE REPORT REQUIREMENTS.  
23  
24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
26

27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402 is amended to read as follows:

28 6-15-1402. Purpose – Report – Confidentiality – Rules and regulations.

29 (a)(1) In order to generally improve public school accountability, to  
30 provide benchmarks for measuring individual school improvement, and to  
31 empower parents and guardians of children enrolled in Arkansas public schools  
32 by providing them with the information to judge the quality of their schools,  
33 the Department of Education shall annually prepare and publish a school  
34 performance report for each individual public school in the state, including  
35 the Arkansas School for the Deaf, the Arkansas School for the Blind, and the  
36 Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts, and shall distribute



1 the report to ~~every parent or guardian of a child in kindergarten through~~  
2 ~~grade twelve (K-12) in the public schools of Arkansas~~ the House Committee on  
3 Education and the Senate Committee on Education no later than March 15 each  
4 year.

5 (2) The school performance report for each school shall be made  
6 available to every parent or guardian of a child in kindergarten through  
7 grade twelve (K-12) in the public schools of Arkansas by posting the school  
8 performance reports for each school on the website of the department and the  
9 website of the school district in which the public schools addressed in the  
10 school performance report are located no later than March 15 each year.

11 (b)(1)(A) The ~~annual~~ school performance report shall be based on  
12 reliable statistical information uniformly required to be collected and  
13 submitted by each local school district to the department and shall be  
14 published in a format that can be easily understood by parents or guardians  
15 who are not professional educators ~~and distributed to the parents or~~  
16 ~~guardians of children enrolled in the public schools via the postal service.~~  
17 ~~Individual school reports shall also be made available via the Internet.~~

18 (B) The information necessary to produce the school  
19 performance report, including the names and addresses of parents and  
20 guardians, shall be filed with the department.

21 (C) The department ~~is strongly encouraged to~~ may contract  
22 with individuals or businesses knowledgeable in the areas of graphic and  
23 computer design to ensure that the school performance reports required by  
24 this subchapter are published in a format that encourages their utilization  
25 by the citizens of the state. ~~The department may enter into a contract~~  
26 ~~arrangement with other parties in order to provide appropriate printing and~~  
27 ~~distribution services.~~

28 (2) The school performance report for elementary schools shall:

29 (A) Include three-year trend data and allow parents or  
30 guardians to compare the school's performance with state and national  
31 averages in areas and shall include, but not be limited to, the following  
32 measures:

- 33 (i) School safety;
- 34 (ii) Norm-referenced test results;
- 35 (iii) Augmented, criterion-referenced, or norm-
- 36 referenced assessment results;

- 1 (iv) ~~Certified~~ licensed staff qualifications;
- 2 (v) Total ~~per-pupil~~ per-pupil spending;
- 3 (vi) Assessment of the local taxpayer investment in
- 4 the school district;
- 5 (vii) Percentage of students eligible to receive
- 6 free or reduced-price meals;
- 7 (viii) Average salary of the staff; and
- 8 (ix) Average attendance rates for students; and
- 9 (B) Indicate separately whether:
- 10 (i) The school distributed the school's student
- 11 discipline policy to parents;
- 12 (ii) The school's teachers, administrators,
- 13 classified school employees, and volunteers have been provided with
- 14 appropriate student discipline training; and
- 15 (iii) The school district has adopted a parental
- 16 involvement plan in compliance with § 6-15-1702.
- 17 (3) The school performance report for middle schools, junior
- 18 high schools, and high schools shall:
- 19 (A) Include three-year trend data and allow parents or
- 20 guardians to compare the school's performance with state and national
- 21 averages in areas which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
- 22 (i) School safety;
- 23 (ii) Norm-referenced test results;
- 24 (iii) Augmented criterion-referenced assessment
- 25 results;
- 26 (iv) ~~Certified~~ licensed staff qualifications;
- 27 (v) ~~Per-pupil~~ Per-pupil spending;
- 28 (vi) Assessment of the local taxpayer investment in
- 29 the school district;
- 30 (vii) Percentage of students eligible to receive
- 31 free or reduced-price meals;
- 32 (viii) Average salary of the staff;
- 33 (ix) Average attendance rates for students;
- 34 (x) Drop-out rate;
- 35 (xi) Graduation or completion rates;
- 36 (xii) College remediation rate for high schools

1 only; and

2 (xiii) Collegiate admission test results, including  
 3 the total number of students in grades nine through eleven (9-11) who took  
 4 the ACT or PSAT; and

5 (xiv) Student participation in College Preparatory  
 6 Enrichment Program (CPEP) or the Arkansas Advanced Initiative for Math and  
 7 Science (AAIMS); and

8 (B) Indicate separately whether:

9 (i) The school distributed the school's student  
 10 discipline policy to parents;

11 (ii) The school's teachers, administrators,  
 12 classified school employees, and volunteers have been provided with  
 13 appropriate student discipline training; and

14 (iii) The school district has adopted a parental  
 15 involvement plan in compliance with § 6-15-1702.

16 (c) School districts may prepare and distribute supplemental materials  
 17 concerning the information contained in the school performance reports.

18 (d) The department is encouraged to:

19 (1) include with school performance reports Include explanatory  
 20 material regarding efforts to improve the state's public schools. ~~The~~  
 21 ~~department is also encouraged to~~ on the website of the department with school  
 22 performance reports; and

23 (2) explore Explore the feasibility of incorporating the school  
 24 improvement plans developed by schools and school districts with the school  
 25 performance reports.

26 (e) The school performance report shall not include individual student  
 27 information if the information is reported in a manner which would identify a  
 28 particular student.

29 (f) (1) The department shall not disclose parent or guardian names,  
 30 addresses, or other identifying information under any circumstances, ~~and the~~  
 31 ~~department shall require any.~~

32 (2) Any vendor, contractor, or supplier utilized to provide  
 33 services under this subchapter ~~to~~ shall sign a confidentiality agreement ~~that~~  
 34 ~~shall prohibit~~ prohibiting the disclosure of parent or guardian names,  
 35 addresses, or other identifying information.

36 (g) The Arkansas School for the Blind and the Arkansas School for the

1 Deaf shall submit to the department;

2           (1) ~~the~~ The results of the appropriately adopted student  
3 achievement tests for the students enrolled at these schools. ~~In addition,~~  
4 ~~the Arkansas School for the Blind and the Arkansas School for the Deaf shall~~  
5 ~~submit to the department a;~~ and

6           (2) A list of other schools' programs to which these schools can  
7 be compared.

8           (h) The department ~~is authorized to~~ may promulgate rules ~~and~~  
9 ~~regulations reasonably~~ necessary to carry out the purposes of this subchapter  
10 ~~regarding the annual school performance report.~~

11           *(i)* ~~The department shall issue the annual school performance report no~~  
12 ~~later than March 15 of each school year.~~

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36

*/s/L. Chesterfield*