

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1297

5 By: Representative Gillam
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR ESTABLISHING A
9 HIGHER EDUCATION ACCREDITING AGENCY IN ARKANSAS; AND
10 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

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13 ACT TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
14 ESTABLISHING A HIGHER EDUCATION
15 ACCREDITING AGENCY IN ARKANSAS.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-136 is amended to read as follows:
22 6-61-136. Establishment of an accrediting agency.

23 (a) ~~As~~ Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an
24 individual shall not establish or operate an accrediting agency for
25 institutions of higher education in this state without recognition by the
26 United States Department of Education.

27 (b) This section does not apply to an accrediting agency that:

28 (1) Accredits only schools operated solely to provide programs
29 of study that prepare students for religious vocations as ministers,
30 professionals, or laypersons in the categories of ministry, counseling,
31 theology, education administration, music, fine arts, or media
32 communications;

33 (2) Accredits only institutions whose names include a religious
34 modifier or the name of a religious patriarch, saint, religious person, or
35 symbol of the church;

36 (3) Accredits only institutions whose degree titles include a



1 religious modifier that:

2 (A) Immediately precedes or is included within any of the
3 following degrees:

4 (i) Associate of Arts;

5 (ii) Associate of Science;

6 (iii) Bachelor of Arts;

7 (iv) Bachelor of Science;

8 (v) Master of Arts;

9 (vi) Master of Science;

10 (vii) Doctor of Philosophy; or

11 (viii) Doctor of Education; and

12 (B) Is placed on the title line of the degree, on the
13 transcript, and whenever the title of the degree appears in official school
14 documents or publications; and

15 (4) Does not accredit any institution that receives federal
16 funding.

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