

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

*As Engrossed: H3/12/13*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1629

5 By: Representative Clemmer  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR THE  
9 ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; TO ENSURE HOME-  
10 SCHOOLED STUDENTS HAVE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE  
11 ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; TO DECLARE AN  
12 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR  
16 THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM;  
17 TO ENSURE HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS HAVE AN  
18 EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ARKANSAS  
19 GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; AND TO  
20 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(6)(B), concerning eligibility  
27 for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

28 (B)(i) The Department of Higher Education may alter the  
29 weight assigned to the individual criterion to more appropriately meet the  
30 needs of the state as determined by the Arkansas Higher Education  
31 Coordinating Board.

32 (ii) The Department of Higher Education shall ensure  
33 that the weight assigned to each individual criterion under this subdivision  
34 does not place a home-schooled, public school, or private school student at a  
35 disadvantage.  
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1           SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
2 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that some Arkansas graduates are at  
3 a disadvantage under the current weighting system for the Arkansas Governor's  
4 Scholars Program; that the Department of Higher Education shall ensure that  
5 the weighting system used by the department does not put home-schooled  
6 students at a disadvantage; and that this act is immediately necessary to  
7 ensure that the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program awards granted for the  
8 2013-2014 school year incorporate the revised weighting criteria developed by  
9 the department. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act  
10 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health,  
11 and safety shall become effective on:

12                   (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

13                   (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
14 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
15 bill; or

16                   (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
17 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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