

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1241

5 By: Representatives Lowery, Bentley, Harris, Payton, Richmond
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO DELAY THE USE OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR
9 ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS
10 (PARCC) ASSESSMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12 TO DELAY THE USE OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR
13 ASSESSMENT OF READINESS FOR COLLEGE AND
14 CAREERS (PARCC) ASSESSMENT.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY.

22 (a)(1) The State Board of Education, the Department of Education, and
23 school districts shall immediately cease using all assessments associated
24 with the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers
25 (PARCC) until at least the 2017-2018 school year.

26 (2) The board, the department, and school districts shall use
27 the assessment program that was in place during the 2012-2013 school year to
28 assess student achievement.

29 (b)(1) The Governor shall convene a task force to study, evaluate, and
30 make recommendations regarding the assessment regimen to be used in public
31 schools.

32 (2) Task force members should include outstanding Arkansas
33 teachers to play a primary role in the development of testing within their
34 subject matter.

35 (3) The task force shall report to the Governor its findings and
36 recommendations no later than October 1, 2017.



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2 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
3 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that there is substantial
4 controversy and questions regarding the assessments associated with the
5 Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC); that
6 until more information and understanding about the assessments are gleaned,
7 the assessment program that was used during the 2012-2013 school year should
8 be used; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure students are
9 assessed this current school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to
10 exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the
11 public peace, health, 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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