

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1543

5 By: Representative Hollowell  
6 By: Senator Caldwell  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO TRANSFER CROWLEY'S RIDGE TECHNICAL  
10 INSTITUTE TO EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; TO  
11 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO TRANSFER CROWLEY'S RIDGE TECHNICAL  
16 INSTITUTE TO EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY  
17 COLLEGE; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 51, is amended to add an  
23 additional subchapter to read as follows:  
24

### Subchapter 11 -

### Transfer of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to East Arkansas Community College

#### 6-51-1101. Merger.

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30 (a) On July 1, 2017, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute is merged  
31 with and into East Arkansas Community College.

32 (b) Except as provided in this subchapter, on July 1, 2017, all  
33 statutory authority, powers, duties, functions, records, personnel, property,  
34 unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds, including  
35 the functions of budgeting or purchasing, of Crowley's Ridge Technical  
36 Institute are transferred to East Arkansas Community College.



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2 6-51-1102. Board of directors and ex officio board of trustees.

3 On the effective date of this act, the Board of Directors of Crowley's  
4 Ridge Technical Institute is abolished, and the Board of Directors of East  
5 Arkansas Community College shall assume the powers and duties of the Board of  
6 Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute.

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8 6-51-1103. Purchasing.

9 (a) On and after July 1, 2017, purchases by East Arkansas Community  
10 College may continue to be made under procedures that were applicable to East  
11 Arkansas Community College or may be made under procedures that were  
12 applicable to Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute.

13 (b) On and after July 1, 2017, flexibility in shop purchases, parts,  
14 and house construction programs shall continue in the same manner authorized  
15 for the original institutions.

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17 6-51-1104. Transfer of assets, obligations, records, personnel,  
18 property, unexpended balances, and legal authority.

19 (a) On July 1, 2017, all property and other rights, claims, and assets  
20 of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute are transferred to East Arkansas  
21 Community College.

22 (b) On July 1, 2017, all obligations of Crowley's Ridge Technical  
23 Institute are obligations of East Arkansas Community College.

24 (c)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2) of this section, on  
25 July 1, 2017, all records, personnel, property, unexpended balances, and  
26 legal authority are transferred from Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to  
27 East Arkansas Community College.

28 (2) The personnel transferred from Crowley's Ridge Technical  
29 Institute to East Arkansas Community College shall comply with Section 3 of  
30 this act.

31 (d) On and after July 1, 2017, all cash fund balances of Crowley's  
32 Ridge Technical Institute transferred to East Arkansas Community College  
33 shall be used for the operation, support, and improvement of occupational,  
34 vocational, technical, and workforce development programs of East Arkansas  
35 Community College.

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1 6-51-1105. Funding from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund.

2 On and after July 1, 2017, funding from the Work Force 2000 Development  
 3 Fund, which would have been provided to Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute,  
 4 shall be provided to East Arkansas Community College to fund workforce  
 5 development, vocational, occupational, and training programs offered by East  
 6 Arkansas Community College.

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 8 6-51-1106. Funding from the Federal Adult Basic Education Fund.

9 On and after July 1, 2017, funding from the Federal Adult Basic  
 10 Education Fund, which would have been provided to Crowley's Ridge Technical  
 11 Institute, shall be provided to East Arkansas Community College.

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 13 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY.

14 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

15 (1) Significant changes in the day-to-day operations of  
 16 Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute before July 1, 2017, may impede the  
 17 ability of the institution to merge seamlessly into East Arkansas Community  
 18 College; and

19 (2) Additional guidance and restrictions are necessary to assure  
 20 a smooth transition to the new institutional structure of East Arkansas  
 21 Community College created by this act.

22 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, on and after  
 23 the effective date of this act and before July 1, 2017, Crowley's Ridge  
 24 Technical Institute shall not:

25 (1) Change its policies or procedures;

26 (2) Terminate an employee of Crowley's Ridge Technical  
 27 Institute;

28 (3) Transfer an employee of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute  
 29 to a different position;

30 (4) Hire a new employee of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute;  
 31 or

32 (5) Destroy, mutilate, or alter documents, records, or other  
 33 property maintained by Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute or its employees  
 34 unless the destruction, mutilation, or alteration is made in the normal  
 35 course of business and the nature of and reason for the destruction,  
 36 mutilation, or alteration are recorded.

1 (c) If Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute determines that performance  
 2 of one (1) or more of the actions prohibited in subsection (b) of this  
 3 section are necessary to appropriately perform the duties or functions of  
 4 Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute:

5 (1) The Technical Institute Director or the Interim Technical  
 6 Institute Director of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute may request that  
 7 the Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College permit performance  
 8 of the action; and

9 (2) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College  
 10 may grant or deny permission to perform the requested action.

11 (d) On and after the effective date of this act and before July 1,  
 12 2017, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall provide to the President of  
 13 East Arkansas Community College or his or her designee any document, record,  
 14 testimony, explanation, or other information maintained by Crowley's Ridge  
 15 Technical Institute or its employees upon the request of the President of  
 16 East Arkansas Community College or his or her designee.

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 18 SECTION 3. Acts 2017, No. 94, § 1, is amended to read as follows:

19 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
 20 Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the  
 21 following maximum number of regular employees.  
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Item	Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code	Title	No. of	Salary Rate
			Employees	Fiscal Year
				2017-2018
<del>(1)</del>	<del>N150N</del>	<del>TECHNICAL INSTITUTE DIRECTOR</del>	<del>1</del>	<del>GRADE N902</del>
<del>(2)</del>	<del>E009C</del>	<del>TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ASST DIRECTOR</del>	<del>3</del>	<del>GRADE C125</del>
<del>(3)</del> (1)	E018C	SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL FACULTY	42	GRADE C122
<del>(4)</del> (2)	E022C	EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION MANAGER	1	GRADE C121
<del>(5)</del> (3)	E027C	CAREER & TECHNICAL FACULTY	3020	GRADE C120
<del>(6)</del> (4)	G207C	FINANCIAL AID ANALYST	1	GRADE C115
<del>(7)</del> (5)	S033C	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C115
<del>(8)</del> (6)	A090C	PAYROLL SERVICES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C115
<del>(9)</del> (7)	A098C	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE C112
<del>(10)</del> (8)	S050C	MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C112

1	<del>(11)</del> (9)	A097C	PAYROLL TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE C112
2	<del>(12)</del> (10)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	5	GRADE C109
3	<del>(13)</del> (11)	S065C	MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	<u>3</u>	GRADE C108
4			MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	<u>5438</u>	

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6 SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. (a)(1) On or before January 31, 2018,  
7 active employees of Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute on June 30, 2017, who  
8 become employees of East Arkansas Community College under this act shall have  
9 the right to make a one-time choice between:

10 (A) The health insurance plan adopted by the State and  
11 Public School Life and Health Insurance Board for state employees; or

12 (B) The East Arkansas Community College health insurance  
13 plan.

14 (2) On or before January 31, 2018, active employees of Crowley’s  
15 Ridge Technical Institute on June 30, 2017, who become employees of East  
16 Arkansas Community College under this act shall have the right to make a one-  
17 time choice between:

18 (A) Remaining in his or her same retirement system under  
19 the same conditions then provided by law or as may later be provided by law;  
20 or

21 (B) The East Arkansas Community College retirement system  
22 plan.

23 (b) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College shall  
24 promulgate rules establishing the procedure for employees to exercise benefit  
25 options under subsection (a) of this section.

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27 SECTION 5. DO NOT CODIFY. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 3 of this act shall  
28 become effective on July 1, 2017.

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30 SECTION 6. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General  
31 Assembly of the State of Arkansas that Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute  
32 should be merged with East Arkansas Community College; that the merger will  
33 be best for the state, Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute, and East Arkansas  
34 Community College; that cooperation between Crowley’s Ridge Technical  
35 Institute and East Arkansas Community College is necessary to effectuate the  
36 merger; and that this act is immediately necessary to allow a smooth

1 transition at the beginning of the fiscal year. Therefore, an emergency is  
2 declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the  
3 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective  
4 on:

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

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

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

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