

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

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1576

4
5 By: Representative C. Douglas

For An Act To Be Entitled

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8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ACADEMIC FACILITIES
9 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM CONCERNING APPROVED BUT UNFUNDED
10 NEW CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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14 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ACADEMIC
15 FACILITIES PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM CONCERNING
16 APPROVED BUT UNFUNDED NEW CONSTRUCTION
17 PROJECTS.

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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 § 6-20-2507, concerning the Academic
23 Facilities Partnership Program, is amended to add additional subsections to
24 read as follows:

25 (h)(1) If a school district's new construction project is approved in
26 a project funding cycle but is not funded during that project funding cycle
27 due to an insufficiency of state funds, the school district's new
28 construction project shall:

29 (A)(i) Continue to be considered approved during the next
30 project funding cycle and each project funding cycle thereafter until the new
31 construction project is funded.

32 (ii) For a new construction project to continue to
33 be considered approved under subdivision (h)(1)(A)(i) of this section, a
34 school district shall provide the division with written confirmation from the
35 school district by the project funding cycle application deadline that the
36 school district still wishes to pursue the new construction project; and



1 (B) Maintain its place of priority into the next project
2 funding cycle and each project funding cycle thereafter until the new
3 construction project is funded.

4 (2) During a project funding cycle, the division shall not
5 prioritize a new construction project that has been approved during that
6 project funding cycle ahead of a new construction project under subdivision
7 (h)(1) of this section.

8 (i)(1)(A) If the state's financial participation for any new
9 construction projects under any of the funding categories becomes void under
10 this section for any reason, the division shall reallocate the funds during
11 the current project funding cycle to the approved but unfunded new
12 construction projects that hold the highest position of priority in the
13 current project funding cycle.

14 (B) If funds become available for a new construction
15 project under subdivision (i)(1)(A) of this section, the public school
16 district may:

17 (i) Accept the funding and proceed with the new
18 construction project; or

19 (ii)(a) Refuse the funding.

20 (b) If a public school district refuses the
21 funding under subdivision (i)(1)(B)(ii)(a) of this section because the
22 available funds would not fully fund the new construction project, the new
23 construction project shall maintain its position of priority.

24 (c) If a public school district refuses the
25 funding under subdivision (i)(1)(B)(ii)(a) of this section, the division
26 shall reallocate the funds to the new construction project holding the next
27 highest position of priority.

28 (2) The division shall continue to reallocate the funds under
29 subdivision (i)(1) of this section until:

30 (A) The funds are exhausted; or

31 (B)(i) The remaining funds will not fully fund during the
32 current project funding cycle any approved but unfunded new construction
33 projects.

34 (ii) Any remaining funds under subdivision
35 (i)(3)(B)(i) of this section shall be considered general funds of the
36 program.