

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1648

By: Representative C. Douglas

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY; AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-202(e), concerning on-site standards  
for accreditation reviews, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) The department shall conduct ~~an on-campus~~ a Standards for  
Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts review for each  
public school or public school district in the state no less than one (1)  
time every four (4) years identified as being at a high risk of failing to  
meet the standards.

(2) ~~The department may visit any school campus for an on-campus~~  
~~Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts~~  
~~review at other additional times as determined necessary by the Commissioner~~  
~~of Education or the state board~~ The review under subdivision (e)(1) of this  
section may be conducted onsite at the public school or public school  
district.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-206(d), concerning onsite standards  
for accreditation reviews, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) ~~An onsite~~ The department shall conduct a review of each



1 school's compliance ~~shall be made at least every two (2) years or more~~  
 2 ~~frequently~~ if the department has reason to believe that the school district  
 3 or any school ~~therein~~ within the public school district has fallen below  
 4 standards for accreditation.

5 (2) The review under subdivision (d)(1) of this section may be  
 6 conducted onsite at the public school or public school district.

7  
 8 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2006(b) and (c), concerning  
 9 publication of annual school district progress reports, is amended to read as  
 10 follows:

11 (b)(1) A school district board of directors shall publish annually ~~in~~  
 12 ~~the local newspaper~~ on its website the school performance report required by  
 13 § 6-15-1402 ~~and report in writing to the State Board of Education~~ by October  
 14 15 of each year the following information on the prior school year or the  
 15 latest information available:

16 ~~(1)(A)~~ (A) By grade level, economic status, and ethnicity, the  
 17 number and percentage of all students in kindergarten through grade twelve  
 18 (K-12) performing at each category level on the state-mandated examinations,  
 19 the percentile rankings by school and grade level on any other assessments as  
 20 required by the state board, the number of students taking advanced placement  
 21 courses or courses offered under the International Baccalaureate Diploma  
 22 Programme, the number taking the advanced placement exams, and the percent of  
 23 students making a 3, 4, or 5 on advanced placement exams;

24 ~~(2)(B)~~ (B) By grade level, the number and percentage of all  
 25 students retained in grades one through eight (1-8);

26 ~~(3)(C)~~ (C) The graduation rate, grade inflation rate, drop-out  
 27 rate for grades nine through twelve (9-12), and college remediation rate;

28 ~~(4)(D)~~ (D) The number of students transferring pursuant to the  
 29 unsafe school provision of § 6-15-432; and

30 ~~(5)(E)~~ (E) The number of students transferring pursuant to the  
 31 Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, § 6-18-227.

32 (2) The school performance report shall be easily identifiable  
 33 on the website.

34 (3) The Department of Education may also publish the school  
 35 performance report in the local newspaper.

36 (c) A printed copy of the school performance report required by § 6-

1 15-1402 shall be made available upon request.

2 (d) This section shall apply to the extent that it is not in violation  
3 of applicable state or federal law.

4  
5 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107(c)(1)(C), concerning performance-  
6 based funding, is repealed.

7 ~~(C) Needs improvement focus schools and needs improvement~~  
8 ~~priority schools as defined in rules of the state board are ineligible to~~  
9 ~~receive rewards under this section.~~