

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

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1740

5 By: Representative Lowery  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENROLLMENT OR RE-ENROLLMENT OF  
9 A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT;  
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

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13 CONCERNING THE ENROLLMENT OR RE-  
14 ENROLLMENT OF A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT IN  
15 A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-504 is amended to read as follows:

22 6-15-504. Enrollment or ~~reenrollment~~ re-enrollment in local schools.

23 (a) ~~(1) Each local school district may assess any home-schooled student~~  
24 ~~who enrolls or reenrolls in the school district in order to determine proper~~  
25 ~~educational placement.~~

26 ~~(2) A local school district that chooses to assess a home-~~  
27 ~~schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in the school district may use the~~  
28 ~~same assessment that the school district uses when a student who has attended~~  
29 ~~another public school or private school enrolls or reenrolls.~~ A public  
30 school district:

31 (1) Shall afford a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-  
32 enrolls in a public school district the same rights and privileges enjoyed by  
33 other public school students; and

34 (2) Shall not deny a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-  
35 enrolls in a public school district any of the following on the basis of  
36 having attended a home school:



1 (A) Award of course credits earned in the home school;

2 (B) Placement in the proper grade level and promotion to  
 3 the next grade level;

4 (C) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section,  
 5 a diploma or graduation;

6 (D) Participation in any academic or extracurricular  
 7 activity;

8 (E) Membership in school-sponsored clubs, associations, or  
 9 organizations; or

10 (F) Scholarships.

11 (b) To enroll or re-enroll in a public school district, a home-  
 12 schooled student shall submit to the public school district:

13 (1) A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades  
 14 from the home school;

15 (2) A score from a norm-referenced assessment taken during the  
 16 past academic year; and

17 (3) A portfolio listing indicators of the home-schooled  
 18 student's academic progress, including without limitation:

19 (A) Curricula used in the home school;

20 (B) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled  
 21 student; and

22 (C) Other indicators of the home-schooled student's  
 23 academic progress.

24 (c) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, a public  
 25 school district shall place a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls  
 26 in the public school district in the proper grade level and academic courses:

27 (1) As indicated by the home-schooled student's:

28 (A) Transcript listing all courses taken and semester  
 29 grades from the home school;

30 (B) Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a norm-  
 31 referenced assessment taken in the past year; and

32 (C) Portfolio listing indicators of the home-schooled  
 33 student's academic progress, including without limitation:

34 (i) Curricula used in the home school;

35 (ii) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-  
 36 schooled student; and

1                   (iii) Other indicators of the home-schooled  
2 student's academic progress; or

3                   (2) By mutual agreement between the public school district and  
4 the home-schooled student's parent or legal guardian.

5                   (d) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, a public  
6 school district shall award a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls  
7 in the public school district provisional academic course credits and grades  
8 earned in the home school as indicated by the home-schooled student's:

9                   (1) Transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades  
10 from the home school;

11                   (2) Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a norm-  
12 referenced assessment taken in the past year; and

13                   (3) Portfolio listing indicators of the home-schooled student's  
14 academic progress, including without limitation:

15                   (A) Curricula used in the home school;

16                   (B) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled  
17 student; and

18                   (C) Other indicators of the home-schooled student's  
19 academic progress.

20                   (e)(1)(A) A public school district shall assign a home-schooled  
21 student who enrolls or re-enrolls under this section in grades nine through  
22 twelve (9-12) a class rank based on the home-schooled student's:

23                   (i) Transcript listing all courses taken and  
24 semester grades from the home school;

25                   (ii) Score from a norm-referenced assessment taken  
26 in the past year; and

27                   (iii) Portfolio listing indicators of the home-  
28 schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:

29                   (a) Curricula used in the home school;

30                   (b) Tests taken and lessons completed by the  
31 home-schooled student; and

32                   (c) Other indicators of the home-schooled  
33 student's academic progress.

34                   (B) A public school district may adjust the class rank  
35 based on the evaluation under subsection (f) of this section.

36                   (2) If the home-schooled student does not submit the information

1 required under subsection (b) of this section, the public school district  
2 shall assign a class rank based on:

3 (A) The home-schooled student's score on the ACT, SAT, or  
4 other test chosen by the public school district; or

5 (B) The same evaluation methods the public school district  
6 uses when a student who has attended another public school or private school  
7 enrolls or re-enrolls in the public school district.

8 (f)(1)(A) Except as provided in subsection (g) of this section, after  
9 the first full semester the home-schooled student is enrolled or re-enrolled  
10 in the public school district, the public school district shall evaluate the  
11 home-schooled student's academic performance.

12 (B) The public school district shall evaluate the home-  
13 schooled student by:

14 (i) Determining whether the home-schooled student is  
15 completing course work in such a manner as to make promotion to the next  
16 grade level or graduation likely; and

17 (ii) Using the same evaluation methods the public  
18 school district uses when a student who has attended another public school or  
19 private school enrolls or re-enrolls in the public school district.

20 (2)(A) If the public school district determines in the  
21 evaluation that the home-schooled student's academic performance is  
22 satisfactory, the public school district shall fully award the academic  
23 course credits and grades earned in the home school as indicated on the home-  
24 schooled student's:

25 (i) Transcript listing all courses taken and  
26 semester grades from the home school;

27 (ii) Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a  
28 norm-referenced assessment taken in the past year; and

29 (iii) Portfolio listing indicators of the home-  
30 schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:

31 (a) Curricula used in the home school;

32 (b) Tests taken and lessons completed by the  
33 home-schooled student; and

34 (c) Other indicators of the home-schooled  
35 student's academic progress.

36 (B) If the public school district determines in the

1 evaluation that the home-schooled student's academic performance is  
 2 unsatisfactory, the public school district may:

3 (1) Reassign the home-schooled student during the  
 4 first year of enrollment or re-enrollment to a different grade level or  
 5 academic courses; and

6 (2) Award the home-schooled student the academic  
 7 course credits the home-schooled student earned in home school as the public  
 8 school district deems appropriate.

9 (g) If the home-schooled student does not submit the information  
 10 required under subsection (b) of this section, the public school district  
 11 shall use the same evaluation methods to award academic course credit and  
 12 grades and place a student in a proper grade level and academic courses as  
 13 the public school district uses when a student who has attended another  
 14 public school or private school enrolls or re-enrolls in the public school  
 15 district.

16 (h) A home-schooled student who enrolls or ~~reenrolls~~ re-enrolls in a  
 17 local public school district shall attend classes for at least nine (9)  
 18 months immediately before graduation before the student can become eligible  
 19 to receive a high school diploma from the public school district.

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