

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

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

As Engrossed: H3/9/17

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1811

5 By: Representative Davis
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
9 CONCERNING PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS; AND FOR OTHER
10 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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14 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
15 CONCERNING PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS.
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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20 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 1, is amended*
21 *to add an additional section to read as follows:*

22 *6-15-104. Prekindergarten programs.*

23 *(a) A prekindergarten program that receives state funds shall:*

24 *(1) Be approved by the Department of Education pursuant to*
25 *requirements developed by the department; and*

26 *(2) Use the prekindergarten academic content standards*
27 *established by the State Board of Education under § 6-15-404.*

28 *(b) The department shall promulgate rules to implement this section.*
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30 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-404(a), concerning academic content*
31 *standards, is amended to read as follows:*

32 *(a)(1)(A) The State Board of Education shall establish clear,*
33 *specific, and challenging academic content standards for prekindergarten*
34 *through grade twelve (preK-12) which that define what students shall know and*
35 *be able to do in each content area.*

36 *(B) The prekindergarten academic content standards*



1 established under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall be aligned with
2 the academic content standards established for students in kindergarten to
3 facilitate the transition from prekindergarten programs into kindergarten
4 through grade twelve (K-12) education.

5 (2) Instruction in all public schools and prekindergarten
6 programs that receive state funds shall be based on these academic content
7 standards.

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9 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-45-103(1), concerning the definition of
10 "appropriate early childhood program" under the Arkansas Better Chance
11 Program Act, is amended to read as follows:

12 (1)(A) "Appropriate early childhood program" means a
13 developmentally appropriate program for young children, birth through five
14 (5) years of age, approved by the Department of Education as complying with
15 the regulatory guidelines of the early childhood state accreditation by the
16 Department of Human Services and Arkansas Better Chance Core Quality Approval
17 Standards of the Department of Education to be issued by the Department of
18 Education pursuant to this chapter.

19 (B) An "appropriate early childhood program" that serves
20 children from three (3) years of age to five (5) years of age shall:

21 (i) Be a prekindergarten program approved by the
22 Department of Education under § 6-15-104; and

23 (ii) Use the prekindergarten academic content
24 standards established by the State Board of Education under § 6-15-404;

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26 /s/Davis
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