

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

*As Engrossed: S2/23/17*

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 178

5 By: Senator Files  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO DELAY THE INCLUSION OF A SCORE ON THE  
9 WRITING PORTION OF THE ACT ASPIRE ASSESSMENT IN A  
10 DETERMINATION OF THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF A  
11 STUDENT, PUBLIC SCHOOL, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO DELAY THE INCLUSION OF A SCORE ON THE  
16 WRITING PORTION OF THE ACT ASPIRE  
17 ASSESSMENT IN A DETERMINATION OF THE  
18 ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF A STUDENT, PUBLIC  
19 SCHOOL, OR PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT.  
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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25 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. For the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school  
26 years, the Department of Education shall not include a student's score on the  
27 writing portion of the ACT Aspire assessment in a determination of:

28 (1) An individual student's academic progress or proficiency  
29 level; or

30 (2) The performance of a public school or public school district  
31 under the statewide accountability system in the Arkansas Comprehensive  
32 Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program Act, § 6-15-401 et seq.  
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34 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
35 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that insufficient research and data  
36 exist on the ability of the writing portion of the ACT Aspire assessment to



1 accurately measure the academic performance of a student, public school, or  
2 public school district; that more time is needed to gather research and data  
3 to determine whether the writing portion of the ACT Aspire assessment is an  
4 appropriate assessment to make that measurement; and that this act is  
5 immediately necessary to ensure that the Department of Education does not  
6 consider a student's score on the writing portion of the ACT Aspire  
7 assessment in measuring the academic performance of a student, public school,  
8 or public school district during the 2016-2017 school year. Therefore, an  
9 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for  
10 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
11 effective on:

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

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

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

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