

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1175

5 By: Representatives Evans, C. Fite
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE; TO AMEND THE
9 PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT OF 2015 AND THE ARKANSAS
10 OPPORTUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT OF 2004; TO
11 AMEND THE DEADLINE BY WHICH A STUDENT WHO HAS A
12 PARENT OR GUARDIAN WHO RESIDES ON A MILITARY BASE MAY
13 APPLY FOR A TRANSFER UNDER THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE
14 ACT OF 2015 AND THE ARKANSAS OPPORTUNITY PUBLIC
15 SCHOOL CHOICE ACT OF 2004; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

18 TO AMEND THE DEADLINE BY WHICH A STUDENT
19 WHO HAS A PARENT OR GUARDIAN WHO RESIDES
20 ON A MILITARY BASE MAY APPLY FOR A
21 TRANSFER UNDER THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE
22 ACT AND THE ARKANSAS OPPORTUNITY PUBLIC
23 SCHOOL CHOICE ACT.
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27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(b)(1)(B), concerning the time by
30 which an individual may apply for a transfer under the Arkansas Opportunity
31 Public School Choice Act of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

32 (B)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(1)(B)(ii) of
33 this section, ~~The~~ the parent, guardian, or the student, if the student is
34 over eighteen (18) years of age, has notified the Department of Education and
35 both the sending and receiving school districts of the request for a transfer
36 no later than July 30 of the first year in which the student intends to



1 transfer.

2 (ii) If a student has a parent or guardian who
3 resides on a military base, the student's request for a transfer under this
4 section may be requested at any time during the calendar year in which the
5 student intends to transfer.

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7 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(b)(2)(A)(ii), concerning the
8 Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004, is amended to read as
9 follows:

10 (ii)(a) A Except as provided in subdivision
11 (b)(2)(A)(ii)(b) of this section, a transfer under this section is effective
12 at the beginning of the next academic year.

13 (b) A transfer under this section for a
14 student who has a parent or guardian who resides on a military base is
15 effective upon the approval of the accepting school board at its next
16 regularly scheduled meeting.

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18 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1905(a), concerning an application for
19 a transfer under the Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to read as
20 follows:

21 (a) If a student seeks to attend a school in a nonresident district,
22 the student's parent shall submit an application:

23 (1) To the nonresident district, which shall notify the resident
24 district of the filing of the application within ten (10) calendar days of
25 receipt of the application;

26 (2) On a form approved by the Department of Education; and

27 (3)(A) Postmarked no later than May 1 of the year in which the
28 student seeks to begin the fall semester at the nonresident district.

29 (B) However, if a student has a parent or guardian who
30 resides on a military base, the student's application for a transfer under
31 this section may be postmarked at any time during the calendar year in which
32 the student seeks to transfer to the nonresident district.

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34 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1905(e), concerning an application for
35 a transfer under the Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to read as
36 follows:

1 (e)(1) ~~By~~ Except as provided in subdivision (e)(4) of this section, by
 2 July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to enroll in a
 3 nonresident district under this subchapter, the superintendent of the
 4 nonresident district shall notify the parent and the resident district in
 5 writing as to whether the student's application has been accepted or
 6 rejected.

7 (2) If the application is rejected, the superintendent of the
 8 nonresident district shall state in the notification letter the reason for
 9 rejection.

10 (3) If the application is accepted, the superintendent of the
 11 nonresident district shall state in the notification letter a reasonable
 12 deadline by which the student shall enroll in the nonresident district and
 13 after which the acceptance notification is null.

14 (4) In the case of an application received from a student who
 15 has a parent or guardian who resides on a military base, the superintendent
 16 of the nonresident district shall include in a notification letter whether
 17 the student's application is:

18 (A) Rejected, and the reason for rejection; or

19 (B) Accepted, and a reasonable deadline by which the
 20 student shall enroll in the nonresident district and after which the
 21 acceptance notification is null.

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