1 State of Arkansas

2 92nd General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1400

4

5 By: Representative Cozart

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUCCEED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; TO

9 REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A

10 BIENNIAL STUDY AND FILE A BIENNIAL REPORT REGARDING

11 CERTAIN INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SUCCEED

12 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

16 TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO

17 CONDUCT A BIENNIAL STUDY AND FILE A

18 BIENNIAL REPORT REGARDING CERTAIN

19 INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SUCCEED

20 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

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

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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 41, Subchapter 9, is amended

26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 6-41-908. Succeed scholarship biennial study.

28 (a) The Department of Education shall conduct biennially a study of

29 the Succeed Scholarship Program under this subchapter to determine the

30 following information without limitation:

31 (1) The number of students currently participating in the

32 Succeed Scholarship Program;

33 (2) The number of students currently participating in the

34 Succeed Scholarship Program who attended a traditional public school before

35 receiving a Succeed Scholarship;

36 (3) The number of students currently participating in the

1   Succeed Scholarship Program who did not attend a traditional public school

2   before enrolling in a private school upon receipt of a Succeed Scholarship;

3   (4) The number of students who have been dismissed from the

4   Succeed Scholarship Program by a private school that is receiving funds

5   through the Succeed Scholarship Program;

6   (5) The number of students who attended a private school with a

7   Succeed Scholarship and voluntarily returned to a traditional public school;

8   (6) The number of children in foster care who have entered the

9   Succeed Scholarship Program, have been dismissed from the Succeed Scholarship

10   Program, or have been removed from the Succeed Scholarship Program by the

11   Department of Human Services;

12   (7) The number of private schools receiving Succeed Scholarship

13   funds that are currently accredited by the Arkansas Nonpublic School

14   Accrediting Association, Inc., its successor, or another accrediting

15   association recognized by the State Board of Education;

16   (8) The number of private schools receiving Succeed Scholarship

17   funds that are currently unaccredited but have applied for accreditation to

18   the Arkansas Nonpublic Accrediting Association, Inc., its successor, or

19   another accrediting association recognized by the state board, and where

20   those schools are in the accreditation process;

21   (9) The number of students who are enrolled in the Succeed

22   Scholarship Program and have taken a nationally recognized norm-referenced

23   test;

24   (10) The number of students with individualized education

25   programs under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. §

26   1400 et seq., who are enrolled in the Succeed Scholarship Program and have

27   been exempted from standardized testing requirements under § 6-41-903; and

28   (11) The number of student portfolios that have been developed

29   for exempt students as required under § 6-41-903.

30   (b) In addition to the above information, the Department of Education

31   shall:

32   (1) Review norm-referenced test results and student portfolios;

33   and

34   (2) Provide comparative data regarding student performance in

35   the Succeed Scholarship Program.

36   (c) The Department of Education shall file a final report that

1 includes the findings under subsections (a) and (b) of this section to the

2 Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education on a

3 biennial basis, with the first report due on October 1, 2019.

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