

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 262

5 By: Senators J. Payton, B. King
6 By: Representative Miller
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC EDUCATION REORGANIZATION
10 ACT; TO REMOVE THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF
11 EDUCATION TO REQUIRE AN ADMINISTRATIVE CONSOLIDATION
12 FOR CERTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

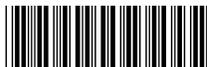
15 TO AMEND THE PUBLIC EDUCATION
16 REORGANIZATION ACT; AND TO REMOVE THE
17 AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
18 TO REQUIRE AN ADMINISTRATIVE
19 CONSOLIDATION FOR CERTAIN SCHOOL
20 DISTRICTS.
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1603(a)(3) and (4), concerning
27 required administrative consolidations, is amended to read as follows:

28 ~~(3) A school district on the consolidation list that does not~~
29 ~~submit a petition under subdivision (a)(2)(A) of this section or that does~~
30 ~~not receive approval by the state board for a voluntary consolidation or~~
31 ~~annexation petition shall be administratively consolidated by the state board~~
32 ~~with or into one (1) or more school districts by May 1, to be effective July~~
33 ~~1 immediately following the publication of the list required under § 6-13-~~
34 ~~1602 unless the school district has been granted a waiver under § 6-13-1613.~~

35 (4)(3) The state board shall promptly consider petitions ~~or move~~
36 ~~on its own motion~~ to administratively consolidate a school district on the



1 consolidation list in order to enable the affected districts to reasonably
2 accomplish any resulting administrative consolidation or annexation by July 1
3 immediately following the publication of the list required under § 6-13-1602.

4 (5) The state board shall not deny the petition for voluntary
5 administrative consolidation or annexation of any two (2) or more school
6 districts unless:

7 (A) The provisions contained in the articles of
8 administrative consolidation or annexation would violate state or federal
9 law; or

10 (B) The voluntary consolidation or annexation would not
11 contribute to the betterment of the education of students in the school
12 district.

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14 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-13-1603(b), concerning required
15 administrative consolidations, is repealed.

16 ~~(b) Any school district required to be administratively consolidated~~
17 ~~under this subchapter shall be administratively consolidated in such a manner~~
18 ~~as to create a resulting district with an average daily membership meeting or~~
19 ~~exceeding three hundred fifty (350).~~

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