

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

As Engrossed: S3/27/23

A Bill

SENATE BILL 387

5 By: Senator J. English
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS MILITARY CHILD SCHOOL
9 TRANSITIONS ACT OF 2021; TO AMEND FEDERAL CITATIONS
10 WITH REGARD TO THE DEFINITION OF "ACTIVE DUTY"; TO
11 REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL MILITARY FAMILY EDUCATION
12 COORDINATOR BE INCLUDED IN ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC
13 SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN; TO
14 AMEND THE QUORUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARKANSAS
15 COUNCIL FOR MILITARY CHILDREN; AND FOR OTHER
16 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

19 TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS MILITARY CHILD
20 SCHOOL TRANSITIONS ACT OF 2021.
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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 § 6-4-302, Article II, concerning the
27 definition of "active duty" used within the Interstate Compact on Educational
28 Opportunity for Military Children, is amended to read as follows:

29 A. "Active duty" means: full-time duty status in the active
30 uniformed *service* of the United States, including members of the National
31 Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. ~~Section~~
32 Chapters 1209 and 1211.
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34 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-28-104, concerning the definition of
35 "active duty" as it is used under the Arkansas Military Child School
36 Transitions Act of 2021, is amended to read as follows:



1 (2) "Active duty" means full-time duty status in the active,
2 uniformed services of the United States, including without limitation members
3 of the National Guard and reserve components of the uniformed services on
4 active duty orders under ~~10 U.S.C. §§~~ 10 U.S.C. Chapters 1209 and 1210 or 42
5 U.S.C. § 204, as they existed on January 1, 2021;

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7 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-28-116 is amended to read as follows:

8 6-28-116. New student reception programs – Military family education
9 coordinators.

10 A public school with twenty (20) or more children of military families
11 enrolled as students under this chapter or a public school district with at
12 least three thousand (3,000) enrolled public school students shall:

13 (1) Incorporate into the policies of the public school district
14 specific procedures that outline actions to take in support of students who
15 are the children of military families who transition to and from the public
16 school district; and

17 (2)(A) Designate in each public school district a military
18 family education coordinator to serve as the primary point of contact for
19 each child of a military family and his or her parent or legal guardian.

20 (B) The public school military family education
21 coordinator shall ~~have:~~

22 (i) Have specialized knowledge regarding the
23 educational needs of children of military families and the obstacles that
24 children of military families face in obtaining an education; and

25 (ii) Be included in the establishment and adoption
26 of a public school district's and public school's parent and family
27 engagement plan as required under § 6-15-1702.

28 (C) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
29 shall supply relevant resources for the orientation and training of public
30 school military family education coordinators under this section.

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32 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-28-203(a)(6), concerning the inclusion of
33 the Executive Director of the Arkansas Activities Association on the Arkansas
34 Council for Military Children, is amended to read as follows:

35 (6) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Activities
36 Association, or his or her designee;

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SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-28-203, concerning the members serving on the Arkansas Council for Military Children, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The identification of a designee who shall serve in lieu of a council member and with the same authority of the council member under this section shall be provided to the council in writing.

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-28-204(e), concerning the purpose and duties of the Arkansas Council for Military Children, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) A majority of all council members shall constitute a quorum at council meetings.

(2) The absence of the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education or the Chair of the House Committee on Education or designees from each of the committees shall not count against a quorum.

/s/J. English