

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

SENATE BILL 1043

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO STUDY THE EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN WHO ARE UNABLE TO PHYSICALLY ATTEND SCHOOL ON A REGULAR BASIS DUE TO A MEDICAL CONDITION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO STUDY THE EDUCATION AND ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO CHILDREN WHO ARE UNABLE TO PHYSICALLY ATTEND SCHOOL ON A REGULAR BASIS DUE TO A MEDICAL CONDITION.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Many children who are medically fragile are unable to physically attend school on a regular basis;

(2) Children with permanent or temporary medical conditions are entitled to the same educational opportunities as children without medical conditions; and

(3) Technological advances and other programs may help ensure that the educational needs of children who are medically fragile are met when the children are unable to physically attend school.

(b)(1) The Department of Education shall conduct a study to determine the best options for providing education to medically fragile children.



(2) The study shall include without limitation:

(A) The number children enrolled in public school that are unable to attend school on a regular basis due to a permanent or temporary medical condition;

(B) The current programs or assistance provided by the department or a school district to children who are medically fragile to ensure the educational needs of children who are medically fragile are being met;

(C) Possible changes to programs or assistance provided by the department or a school district to medically fragile children to improve the educational opportunities that children who are medically fragile receive;

(D) A review of the practices, policies, and trends regarding education for children who are medically fragile in other states, including how the practices, policies, and trends could be applied in Arkansas; and

(E) An analysis of how technological advances can assist schools in meeting the educational needs of children who are medically fragile.

(3) The department shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education no later than December 1, 2013, that contains information learned from the study and findings and recommendations of the department as a result of the study.

APPROVED: 04/12/2013