

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

As Engrossed: H4/1/13
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1714

By: Representative Word

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL ACT
ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL ACT
ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ACT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1601 is amended to read as follows:
6-18-1601. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "~~Voluntary~~
Universal ACT Assessment Program Act".

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1602, concerning the definition of
"Smart Core", is amended to read as follows:

(2) "Smart Core" means ~~the required curriculum that is part of
Smart Future, a state initiative focused on improving Arkansas public schools
for all students so they are prepared for life beyond graduation;~~

(A) The college and career readiness curriculum by that
name under the rules of the State Board of Education; or

(B) A college and career readiness curriculum that is:
(i) Established by rules of the state board in
coordination with the Department of Higher Education; and

(ii) Substituted for the curriculum named "Smart
Core".



SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1603 is amended to read as follows:
6-18-1603. Creation.

There is created in the Department of Education the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program to be developed, implemented, and administered by the department as provided in this subchapter.

SECTION 4. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-1604 is amended to read as follows:

The purpose of the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program is to:

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1606 is amended to read as follows:
6-18-1606. Implementation.

Beginning with the ~~2008-2009~~ 2014-2015 school year, the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program may provide each student in ~~grade~~ grades nine (9), ten (10), or eleven (11) with the opportunity to take the ACT Assessment while in ~~grade~~ grades nine (9), ten (10), or eleven (11) without any charge by using school district funding, including National School Lunch Act funds, to pay for the exams as approved by the Department of Education.

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(b)(3)(B)(iv), concerning school performance reports, is amended to read as follows:

(iv) The school district provides college preparation and remediation for students who have taken the ACT before their senior year of high school under the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program Act, § 6-18-1601 et seq.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1608 is amended to read as follows:
6-18-1608. Reporting.

The Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education shall submit a combined annual report to the Legislative Council by December 1 of each year that establishes compliance with this subchapter, provides data on the number of participants in the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program, and outlines the impact of this program on the college readiness of high school seniors and the remediation rates at institutions of higher education.

SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 6-60-703(b)(1)(C), concerning the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report Act, is amended to read as follows:

(C) The ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program, § 6-18-1608;

SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on July 1, 2014.

/s/Word

APPROVED: 04/22/2013