

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: S3/18/15, S3/26/15

A Bill

SENATE BILL 858

By: Senator E. Cheatham

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE
ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING PUBLIC EDUCATION; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF
TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING
PUBLIC EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-431, concerning academic distress rules, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The state board may adopt by rule, criteria that permit the following entities to be exempt from the identification and classification of academic distress:

(1) A public school that is designated solely as an alternative learning environment;

(2) An open-enrollment public charter school whose mission and enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of schools;

(3) A conversion public charter school whose mission and enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of school;

(4) The Arkansas School for the Blind; and

(5) The Arkansas School for the Deaf.

(d) The criteria adopted by the state board under subsection (c) of



this section shall include the method to measure student academic performance for a student that attends an entity identified under subsection (c) of this section to meet the requirements of state or federal law or regulation.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2106, concerning school rating system rules, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The state board may adopt by rule, criteria that permit the following entities to be exempt from the identification and classification of academic distress:

(1) A public school that is designated solely as an alternative learning environment;

(2) An open-enrollment public charter school whose mission and enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of schools,

(3) A conversion public charter school whose mission and enrollment are primarily focused on students who have dropped out of high school or are identified as at risk of dropping out of school;

(4) The Arkansas School for the Blind; and

(5) The Arkansas School for the Deaf.

(d) The criteria adopted by the state board under subsection (c) of this section shall include the method to measure student academic performance for a student that attends an entity identified under subsection (c) of this section to meet the requirements of state or federal law or regulation.

/s/E. Cheatham

APPROVED: 04/08/2015