

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 854 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H3/6/15  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 342

By: Senators Irvin, Bledsoe, Caldwell, E. Cheatham, A. Clark, Collins-Smith, J. Cooper, J. English, Flippo, S. Flowers, J. Hendren, Hester, Hickey, K. Ingram, B. Johnson, B. King, U. Lindsey, B. Pierce, Rapert, Rice, B. Sample, D. Sanders, G. Stubblefield, Teague, E. Williams, J. Woods  
By: Representatives Baltz, Brown, Copeland, C. Douglas, Gossage, M. Gray, Harris, G. Hodges, House, Leding, Speaks, Sturch

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL RECOGNITION AND  
REWARD PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS SCHOOL RECOGNITION  
AND REWARD PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-419, concerning definitions, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(36) "Annual student academic growth" means calculating a student's academic progress from one school year to the next, as measured by assessments and other criteria required by rule of the State Board of Education.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2107(b) and (c), concerning the Arkansas School Recognition Program, are amended to read as follows:

(b) The Arkansas School Recognition Program is created to provide financial awards to public schools that experience high student performance, and those with high student academic growth, and, for a secondary school, a high graduation rate which includes high school graduation rate comparisons for secondary schools.



(c)(1)(A) *If funds are available, a public school or public charter school shall receive performance-based funding of:*

(i) One hundred dollars (\$100) per student who attends the public school or public charter school if:

(a) The public school or public charter school is in the top ~~ten percent (10%)~~ five percent (5%) of all public schools in Arkansas in ~~combined student performance, student academic growth, and, for a secondary school, graduation rate~~ under the criteria set forth by rule of the State Board of Education;

(b) The public school or public charter school is in the top five percent (5%) of all public schools in Arkansas in student academic growth under the criteria set forth by rule of the State Board of Education; or

(c) The public school or public charter school meets the criteria established by the state board to be used in lieu of the criteria set forth in subdivisions (c)(1)(A)(i)(a) and (b) of this section to reward top-performing public schools; or

(ii) Fifty dollars (\$50) per student who attends the public school or public charter school if:

(a) The public school or public charter school is ~~between~~ in the top ~~eleven percent (11%)~~ ten percent (10%) ~~and top twenty percent (20%)~~ but below the top five percent (5%) of all public schools in Arkansas in ~~combined student performance, student academic growth, and for a secondary school, graduation rate,~~ under the criteria set forth by rule of the state board;

(b) The public school or public charter school is in the top ten percent (10%) but below the top five percent (5%) of all public schools in Arkansas in student academic growth under the criteria set forth by rule of the State Board of Education; or

(c) The public school or public charter school meets the criteria established by the state board to be used in lieu of the criteria set forth in subdivisions (c)(1)(A)(ii)(a) and (b) of this section to reward high-performing public schools that do not meet the eligibility criteria set forth in subdivision (c)(1)(A)(i) of this section.

(B) The rewards listed in subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section:

(i) Shall begin after the 2012-2013 state-mandated assessments; and

(ii) Shall be based upon a comparison between the results of the 2011-2012 state-mandated assessments and the 2012-2013 state-mandated assessments.

(C) Needs Improvement-Focus schools and Needs Improvement-Priority schools as defined in rules of the state board are ineligible to receive rewards under this section.

(2) The Department of Education may disburse available performance-based funding appropriated by the General Assembly on a pro rata basis.

(3) Each school that receives performance-based funding shall submit to the department a proposal for its spending of the performance-based funding.

(4) The department shall:

(A) Review each proposal received under this section; and

(B) Approve spending of performance-based funding for academic expenses only as provided under subsection (e) of this section.

*/s/ Irvin*

**APPROVED: 03/31/2015**