

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H3/5/15
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1443

By: Representative J. Mayberry

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ENSURE THAT SCHOOL NURSES HAVE ACCESS TO
APPROPRIATE *FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT* THAT ENABLE THEM
TO DO THEIR JOB; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

*TO ENSURE THAT SCHOOL NURSES HAVE ACCESS
TO APPROPRIATE FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT
THAT ENABLE THEM TO DO THEIR JOB.*

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 20, Subchapter 25, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-20-2517. Nursing center.

(a) Beginning in the 2017-2019 funding cycle for the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, each new application for a new school building or a major renovation to an existing school building that would normally house a nursing office shall include a school nursing center.

(b) A nursing center shall meet minimum standards for infection control and safe care including without limitation:

- (1) A private office with a door;
- (2) Heat and air conditioning;
- (3) A telephone;
- (4) A sink with hot and cold water;
- (5) A handicap-accessible bathroom with a toilet;
- (6) A locking filing cabinet;
- (7) A double-locking medicine cabinet;



(8) A refrigerator for medications;

(9) A sharps container and system for the disposal of biohazard waste;

(10) Personal protection equipment for each nurse including gowns, masks, and gloves;

(11) Two (2) cots;

(12) A computer with Internet access;

(13)(A) An electronic health records system that is compliant with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. 104-191.

(B) The Department of Education may purchase appropriate software that is accessible to a school district depending on the availability of funding;

(14) First aid and assessment equipment;

(15) Storage cabinets for first aid and assessment equipment;

and

(16) A desk and office supplies.

(c) The project minimum required under § 6-20-2507(b)(1)(C) does not apply to a construction project with a school nursing center.

(d) A school nursing center may be located in a portable classroom.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 20, Subchapter 25, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-20-2517. Public School Nurse Facility and Equipment Grant Pilot Program.

(a) The Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall develop by rule, and the Division of Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall administer, the Public School Nurse Facility and Equipment Grant Pilot Program to provide state financial assistance to eligible school districts for the purpose of providing appropriate nursing facilities and equipment.

(b) The eligibility criteria developed by the commission shall include without limitation:

(1) School district size, including declining enrollment or enrollment growth;

(2) Current school district nursing facilities and equipment;
and

(3) School district resources.

(c) A school district applying to the division for a grant shall provide the division with:

(1) The estimated cost of the project;

(2) The amount of school district resources available for the project, if any;

(3) The school district fund balances;

(4) Efforts made by the school district to develop and provide local resources; and

(5) How state financial participation, if granted, will support the prudent and resourceful expenditure of state funds and will improve the school districts ability to provide appropriate nursing facilities and equipment.

(d) The pilot program shall expire on July 1, 2017.

/s/J. Mayberry

APPROVED: 04/02/2015