

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 863 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: H3/13/17 H3/17/17
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1740

By: Representative Lowery

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ENROLLMENT OR RE-ENROLLMENT OF
A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT IN A PUBLIC SCHOOL; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE ENROLLMENT OR RE-
ENROLLMENT OF A HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENT IN
A PUBLIC SCHOOL.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-504 is amended to read as follows:

6-15-504. Enrollment or ~~reenrollment~~ re-enrollment in local schools.

~~(a)(1) Each local school district may assess any home-schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in the school district in order to determine proper educational placement.~~

~~(2) A local school district that chooses to assess a home-schooled student who enrolls or reenrolls in the school district may use the same assessment that the school district uses when a student who has attended another public school or private school enrolls or reenrolls.~~ A local public school district:

(1) Shall afford a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in a public school the same rights and privileges enjoyed by other public school students; and

(2) Shall not deny a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in a public school any of the following solely on the basis of having attended a home school:



- (A) Award of course credits earned in the home school;
- (B) Placement in the proper grade level and promotion to the next grade level;
- (C) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, a diploma or graduation;
- (D) Participation in any academic or extracurricular activity;
- (E) Membership in school-sponsored clubs, associations, or organizations; or
- (F) Scholarships.

(b) To enroll or re-enroll in a public school, a home-schooled student shall submit to the public school:

(1) A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades from the home school; and

(2) A portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:

- (A) Curricula used in the home school;
- (B) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled student; and
- (C) Other indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress.

(c) A public school shall place a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the public school at a grade level and academic course level equivalent to or higher than the home-schooled student's grade level and academic course level in the home school:

(1) As indicated by the home-schooled student's:

(A) Transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades from the home school;

(B) Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment taken in the past year; and

(C) Portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:

- (i) Curricula used in the home school;
- (ii) Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled student; and
- (iii) Other indicators of the home-schooled

student's academic progress; or

(2) By mutual agreement between the public school and the home-schooled student's parent or legal guardian.

(d) If the student is unable to provide a nationally recognized norm-referenced test score the school shall:

(1) Assess the student using a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment; or

(2) Waive the nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment requirement.

(e) Except as provided in subsection (f) of this section, if the home-schooled student does not meet the requirements of subsection (c) of this section, the public school shall have sole authority to determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits based on the same methods used when a student who attended another public or private school enrolls or reenrolls in the public school.

(f) A public school may waive all requirements under subsections (b) and (c) of this section and enroll the student by mutual agreement with the parent or guardian.

(g) A home-schooled student who enrolls or ~~reenrolls~~ re-enrolls in a local public school ~~district~~ shall attend classes for at least nine (9) months immediately before graduation before the student can become eligible to ~~receive a high school diploma~~ graduate from the public school district with a diploma.

/s/Lowery

APPROVED: 04/04/2017