

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
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A Bill

SENATE BILL 562

By: Senator J. English
By: Representative Cozart

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND OR REPEAL OBSOLETE LAWS CONCERNING
PUBLIC EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND OR REPEAL OBSOLETE LAWS
CONCERNING PUBLIC EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2011 is repealed.

~~6-15-2011. Supplemental Educational Services Transparency Act.~~

~~(a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Supplemental Educational Services Transparency Act".~~

~~(b) The purposes of this section are to:~~

~~(1) Increase academic performance of students and reduce student remediation rates;~~

~~(2) Ensure that students who qualify for supplemental educational services receive the services they need;~~

~~(3) Assist parents in making informed decisions when selecting supplemental educational service providers; and~~

~~(4) Assist policy makers in reviewing the effectiveness of the supplemental educational service providers.~~

~~(c) As used in this section:~~

~~(1) "Provider" means a person or entity that:~~

~~(A) Provides supplemental educational services to Arkansas public school students; and~~



~~(B) Is identified on the list of approved supplemental educational service providers published by the Department of Education; and~~

~~(2)(A) “Supplemental educational services” means academic instruction;~~

~~(i) Provided to public school students in addition to the instruction provided during a school day; and~~

~~(ii) Designed to increase the academic achievement of students enrolled in public schools that have been identified as being in year two (2) or higher of school improvement.~~

~~(B) “Supplemental educational services” includes without limitation academic assistance such as tutoring, remediation, and other supplemental academic enrichment services that are:~~

~~(i) Consistent with the content and instruction used by the school district where the provider’s students are enrolled; and~~

~~(ii) Aligned with the state’s academic content and achievement standards.~~

~~(d)(1) A provider shall prepare an annual report and:~~

~~(A) Submit the annual report to the department and to the school district where the supplemental educational services are provided; and~~

~~(B) Place a copy of the annual report on the provider’s website.~~

~~(2) The report shall include without limitation the following information:~~

~~(A) By race and gender, the improvement in student achievement for each student served based on the statewide benchmark tests or other statewide assessment of student achievement;~~

~~(B) Student attendance rates;~~

~~(C) The amount of funds the provider received per student;~~

~~(D) By school district, the total number of supplemental educational services contracts and the total amount of funds received under those contracts;~~

~~(E) The total number of years supplemental educational services have been provided and the total number of students served for all years; and~~

~~(F) The results of parent satisfaction surveys.~~

~~(e) A school district shall include the provider’s report on the~~

~~school district's website.~~

~~(f)(1) Annually, the department shall review the report of a provider before placing the provider on the department's list of state-approved providers.~~

~~(2) The department shall include a link for parents to access information concerning approved providers on its website.~~

~~(g) By January 15, 2012, and by January 15 of each year thereafter, a provider of supplemental educational services shall also prepare an annual progress report containing at least the information required under subsection (d) of this section to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.~~

~~(h) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement this section.~~

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-16-131 is repealed.

~~6-16-131. Future art and music teachers pilot program.~~

~~(a) By no later than June 1, 2002, the Department of Education shall develop and implement a Future Art and Music Teachers Pilot Program.~~

~~(b) The program shall provide in at least six (6) schools in the state a program through which students in grades eleven (11) and twelve (12) may provide visual art and music instruction to students in grades kindergarten through six (K-6).~~

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code §§ 6-16-1002 and 6-16-1003 are repealed.

~~6-16-1002. Implementation.~~

~~(a) Within six (6) months of August 13, 2001, the Department of Health, in consultation with the Department of Education, shall:~~

~~(1) Develop a comprehensive set of criteria for establishing a Kids For Health program;~~

~~(2) Develop a grant program under which school districts may apply for grants to design and implement local Kids For Health programs;~~

~~(3) Inform all public schools in Arkansas of the availability of funds for Kids For Health programs; and~~

~~(4) Develop a plan for monitoring and auditing Kids For Health programs.~~

~~(b)(1) For purposes of this subchapter, "Kids For Health program"~~

~~means an educational program substantially similar to the Kids For Health program already operating in Washington County under the sponsorship of the Washington Regional Medical Center.~~

~~(2) Each school district may design a Kids For Health program appropriate to that school district, but each Kids For Health program shall include the study of general health issues, the study of tobacco and drug abuse prevention and cessation, direct student involvement in health-related activities, attention to self-esteem, body systems and functions, nutrition and fitness, hygiene and safety, community health, and pretesting and posttesting to determine the effectiveness of the local program.~~

~~6-16-1003. Oral health standards.~~

~~(a) The Department of Education shall adopt oral health standards as part of the Arkansas physical education and health curriculum framework.~~

~~(b) The Department of Education shall work with public schools to establish an educational program to inform, train, and educate students concerning the importance of achieving and maintaining good oral health.~~

~~(c) Curricula shall be designed according to objectives established by the Department of Education.~~

~~(d) The objectives shall be grade-specific and shall be incorporated into the appropriate existing health and science curricula.~~

~~(e) It is the intent of this section that the curricula shall be implemented gradually, on a basis to be determined by the Department of Education, beginning no later than the fall semester 2005 with early elementary curricula and reaching full implementation at the high school level no later than the fall semester of 2011.~~

~~(f) The Department of Education shall enlist the voluntary assistance of appropriate dental health professionals, organizations, and departments as necessary to achieve the purposes of this section.~~

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-16-1301 is repealed.

~~6-16-1301. End of Course Success Incentive Program.~~

~~(a)(1) The End of Course Success Incentive Program is established, to be administered by the Commissioner of Education.~~

~~(2) Contingent upon legislative appropriations, schools will be awarded fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each student passing the end-of-course~~

~~assessment on his or her first attempt.~~

~~(3) These funds shall be utilized in the schools to improve student academic performance.~~

~~(b) Subject to legislative appropriations, a teacher teaching a course that has a state required end-of-course assessment may be awarded subsidized teacher training for that particular course at a cost not to exceed six hundred fifty dollars (\$650) per teacher.~~

~~(c) The provisions of this section shall be contingent on the appropriation and availability of funding for that purpose.~~

~~(d) The State Board of Education is authorized to promulgate rules necessary to implement this subchapter.~~

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-19-124 is repealed.

~~6-19-124. Mobile Learning Technology Pilot Program.~~

~~(a) The General Assembly finds that:~~

~~(1) In rural areas of the state, public school students may spend hours of unproductive time on the school bus being transported to and from school;~~

~~(2) The state has a critical need to increase its workforce in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for national and global economic competitiveness;~~

~~(3) Long, unproductive bus commutes are transformed into productive learning environments in the fields of mathematics and science through the use of mobile learning technology and the accompanying personalized learning experiences; and~~

~~(4) A statewide pilot program using mobile learning technology will develop untapped talent for the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics workforce.~~

~~(b)(1) The Mobile Learning Technology Pilot Program is created as a three-year pilot program to provide the mobile learning technology under this section to a total of up to twenty five (25) public school districts.~~

~~(2) Each congressional district in the state may have up to five (5) public school districts participating in the pilot program.~~

~~(c) The Department of Education shall begin the pilot program with the 2010-2011 school year and continue the pilot program through the end of the 2012-2013 school year.~~

~~(d)(1) Each public school district participating in the pilot program shall equip up to three (3) school buses with wireless Internet service and purchase or obtain the following technology:~~

- ~~(A) Fifteen (15) laptop computers;~~
- ~~(B) Forty (40) portable devices for storing video files;~~
- ~~(C) Two (2) sets of media screens; and~~
- ~~(D) Math and science software for use with the laptop~~

~~computers and video portable devices for storing video files.~~

~~(2) The public school district may use foundation funding provided for technology or other funding sources for purchases made under this subsection.~~

~~(e) The pilot program also shall provide:~~

~~(1) For each public school district participating in the pilot program, a community classroom teacher who is available for student questions and meets with pilot students weekly in a community classroom environment;~~

~~(2) Partnerships with institutions of higher education, the school district community, and corporate entities that will expose the pilot students to careers and professionals in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;~~

~~(3) Measurements of specified outcomes, including without limitation:~~

~~(A) The number and types of courses completed by pilot students;~~

~~(B) The number and types of Advanced Placement courses completed by the pilot students and the Advanced Placement examination scores; and~~

~~(C) The results of Arkansas benchmark assessments for the pilot students;~~

~~(4) A comparison of the state benchmark assessments in pilot and nonpilot public school districts; and~~

~~(5) A survey of the pilot students' interests in careers and courses of study in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields.~~

~~(f) As funds are appropriated and available, the department may hire consultants or experts with the knowledge of and appropriate experience with mobile learning technology for use on school buses as well as other qualifications established by the department.~~

~~(g)(1) At the end of the three year period, the department or its consultants or experts shall prepare an evaluation of the pilot program and report on the evaluation to the House Committee on Education and to the Senate Committee on Education.~~

~~(2) Consultants or experts hired by the department shall be available to answer questions or provide information as requested by the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.~~

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-19-128 is repealed.

~~6-19-128. Compressed Natural Gas School Bus Pilot Program.~~

~~(a) As used in this section:~~

~~(1) "Compressed natural gas" means a fossil fuel substitute for gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, or liquid propane gas that is:~~

~~(A) Composed primarily of methane; and~~

~~(B) Compressed to less than one percent (1%) of the volume it occupies at standard atmospheric pressure;~~

~~(2) "Compressed natural gas school bus" means a school bus powered by compressed natural gas that is not owned by a school district before its participation in the Compressed Natural Gas School Bus Pilot Program; and~~

~~(3) "Qualified applicant" means a school district that applies to the Compressed Natural Gas School Bus Pilot Program and that meets the qualifications under subsection (c) of this section.~~

~~(b)(1) The Compressed Natural Gas School Bus Pilot Program is created for the 2014 and 2015 fiscal years to provide compressed natural gas school buses to four (4) public school districts.~~

~~(2) Each congressional district in the state may have one (1) public school district participating in the program.~~

~~(3) Each school district in the state may apply to become a participating school district in the program.~~

~~(4) If more than one (1) school district from a congressional district applies to the program, the participating district will be selected by random drawing from all qualified applicants submitted for a congressional district.~~

~~(5) The Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation shall run the program for its term.~~

~~(c)(1)(A) Each public school district participating in the program shall be provided ten (10) compressed natural gas school buses.~~

~~(B) The school buses provided under the program shall be purchased by the division based upon specifications and requirements determined by the division.~~

~~(2) To qualify for the grant under subdivision (c)(1) of this section, each public school district seeking to participate in the program shall submit an application in the form and manner established by the division setting forth that the applicant:~~

~~(A)(i) Agrees to purchase ten (10) compressed natural gas school buses in addition to those provided under subdivision (c)(1) of this section before June 30, 2015.~~

~~(ii) The compressed natural gas school buses to be purchased by the participating district shall meet or exceed:~~

~~(a) The specifications and requirements of the compressed natural gas school buses provided by the division; and~~

~~(b) Applicable provisions of the rules of the Commission for Arkansas Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, as they existed on January 1, 2013;~~

~~(B) Either:~~

~~(i) Has reasonable access to refueling options to allow for efficient use of the compressed natural gas school buses; or~~

~~(ii) Agrees, if the proposal calls for the construction of a new refueling station, to provide access to the refueling station to the general public; and~~

~~(C) Has sufficient resources to purchase, operate, and maintain the compressed natural gas school buses under this section, including information demonstrating that purchase, operation, and maintenance will not cause a financial hardship on the applicant.~~

~~(3) In addition to the requirements for qualifying applicants under subdivision (c)(2) of this section, the division is authorized to develop and require compliance with additional qualifications it deems necessary.~~

~~(d) The division may promulgate rules to administer the program.~~

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-21-406 is amended to read as follows:

6-21-406. Conditions for offering textbooks for adoption, sale, or exchange.

~~(a)(1) As used in this subsection, "person" means an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a company, or an association.~~

~~(2) Before a person may offer instructional materials used in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12), inclusive, for adoption, sale, or exchange in the State of Arkansas, the person shall, by June 30 of each year, submit to the Department of Education a certified list of:~~

~~(A) All state contracts made during the state fiscal year just ended on all instructional materials the publisher sold in this state during the state fiscal year just ended; and~~

~~(B) Instructional materials sold to each school district in Arkansas, including the price of each instructional material.~~

~~(b) All publishers doing business in Arkansas shall maintain one (1) or more book depositories at the publisher's expense in this state.~~

APPROVED: 04/05/2017