

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 451

By: Senator K. Hammer  
By: Representative Cozart

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING VISUAL ART, MUSIC, AND PERFORMING ARTS REQUIREMENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS; TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENT THAT STUDENTS IN GRADES FIVE (5) AND SIX (6) ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT CONFIGURED AS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN VISUAL ART AND MUSIC CLASS; TO REQUIRE THAT STUDENTS IN GRADE SIX (6) ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND OPEN-ENROLLMENT PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT CONFIGURED AS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN VISUAL ARTS OR PERFORMING ARTS INSTRUCTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS REGARDING VISUAL ART, MUSIC, AND PERFORMING ARTS REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES FIVE (5) AND SIX (6) ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT CONFIGURED AS ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-16-130(a)(2), concerning required visual art and music class, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) Every student in grades one through six (1-6) enrolled in a public school or an open-enrollment public charter school that is



configured as an elementary school shall participate in the visual art and music class required in this subsection.

(B) Children with disabilities or other special needs shall be included in the visual art and music programs.

(C) A student in grades five (5) or six (6) enrolled in a public school or an open-enrollment public charter school that is not configured as an elementary school shall participate in visual arts or performing arts instruction as provided under subsection (b) of this section.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-16-130(b), concerning visual arts and performing arts instruction, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A student enrolled in grade seven (7) or grade eight (8), or a student in grade six (6) enrolled in a public school or an open-enrollment public charter school that is not configured as an elementary school, shall participate in:

- (1) Visual arts instruction, appreciation, and application; or
- (2) Performing arts instruction, appreciation, and application.

**APPROVED: 4/12/21**