

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

As Engrossed: H3/12/13
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1629

By: Representative Clemmer

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; TO ENSURE HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS HAVE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; TO ENSURE HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS HAVE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE ARKANSAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-82-306(b)(6)(B), concerning eligibility for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program, is amended to read as follows:

(B)(i) The Department of Higher Education may alter the weight assigned to the individual criterion to more appropriately meet the needs of the state as determined by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(ii) The Department of Higher Education shall ensure that the weight assigned to each individual criterion under this subdivision does not place a home-schooled, public school, or private school student at a disadvantage.



SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that some Arkansas graduates are at a disadvantage under the current weighting system for the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program; that the Department of Higher Education shall ensure that the weighting system used by the department does not put home-schooled students at a disadvantage; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure that the Arkansas Governor's Scholars Program awards granted for the 2013-2014 school year incorporate the revised weighting criteria developed by the department. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

/s/Clemmer