

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: H4/18/13
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1873

By: Representatives Julian, D. Altes, C. Armstrong, J. Burris, Dale, Deffenbaugh, J. Dickinson, Fite, Hutchison, Murdock, Walker, H. Wilkins

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE; TO IMPROVE EDUCATION IN *ARKANSAS'S ISOLATED SCHOOL AREAS*; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE; TO IMPROVE EDUCATION IN ARKANSAS'S ISOLATED SCHOOL AREAS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-20-604(e), concerning isolated school funding, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) ~~Except as provided in subdivision (e)(2) of this section, a~~ A school district meeting the requirements of subsection (b) of this section shall receive an additional amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the per-student foundation funding amount under § 6-20-2305(a)(2) multiplied by the prior-year three-quarter average daily membership of the isolated school area to be used for the operation of the isolated school area if the school district has school facilities open for kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) in one (1) or more isolated school areas meeting the requirements of subsection (b) of this section.

~~(2) A school district shall receive an additional amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the per-student foundation funding amount under § 6-~~



~~20-2305(a)(2) multiplied by the prior year three-quarter average daily membership of the isolated school area to be used for the operation of the isolated school area if:~~

~~(A) The school district has school facilities serving students in any grade in kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) in one (1) or more isolated school areas meeting the requirements of subsection (b) of this section; and~~

~~(B) The school district closed an isolated facility serving students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) between January 1, 2008, and July 1, 2008.~~

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that due to a recent decision of the Supreme Court of Arkansas the special needs funding currently provided to isolated schools is in jeopardy; that the state should effectuate the original purpose of the law; that this amendment to the law is necessary to prevent the hardship that may be placed on school districts with isolated schools due to the loss of funding for special needs; and that this act is immediately necessary because school districts affected by this act and the Department of Education need to resolve the funding issues under this act for the 2013-2014 school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2013.

/s/ Julian