

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

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1968

By: Representative G. Hodges

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ARKANSAS TEACHER PREPARATION
QUALITY ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

ARKANSAS TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY ACT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 29 -- The Arkansas Teacher Preparation Program Quality Act of 2015.

6-17-2901. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas Teacher Preparation Program Quality Act of 2015".

6-17-2902. Findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Quality teacher preparation programs are essential in providing a strong teacher workforce across the state;

(2) The state supports a variety of teacher preparation programs;

(3) A data system to track the effectiveness of teacher preparation programs by following teachers is already established; and

(4) The state and its citizens have a vested interest in the



quality of teacher preparation programs for teachers.

6-17-2903. Intent.

It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide the public with information regarding the quality and effectiveness of teacher preparation programs in the state by evaluating teacher preparation programs using measureable data that will:

- (1) Support quality instructional practices in teacher preparation programs;
- (2) Improve student learning;
- (3) Encourage teacher preparation programs to continually assess and improve practices; and
- (4) Improve teacher recruitment and retention efforts.

6-17-2904. Reporting.

(a) Beginning on July 1, 2016, and each July 1 thereafter, the Department of Education shall prepare a report on the effectiveness of all teacher preparation programs in the state using data collected from each teacher in his or her first five (5) years of placement as a teacher of record in a school district.

(b) The report shall include without limitation the correlation between different teacher preparation programs in the state and:

- (1) Student academic achievement;
- (2) Student academic growth;
- (3) Student demographics;
- (4) Teacher placement;
- (5) Teacher mobility; and
- (6) Teacher retention.

(c) The Department of Education shall collaborate with teacher education program providers and the Department of Higher Education to make the report available to the public on the website of the Department of Education within thirty (30) days of completion.

(d) The information from the report shall be utilized by the State Board of Education and teacher education program providers to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of teacher education programs.

(e) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules needed to

implement this section, including without limitation rules addressing:

(1) Which teacher preparation programs are included; and

(2) The measurements that will be used by the Department of Education to evaluate teacher preparation programs, including without limitation:

(A) Student academic achievement;

(B) Student academic growth;

(C) Student demographics;

(D) Teacher placement;

(E) Teacher mobility;

(F) Teacher retention; and

(G) The method used to analyze the data.