

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

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H3/6/15
A Bill

SENATE BILL 211

By: Senator A. Clark

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE AN ECONOMIC SECURITY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES FOR DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES EARNED AT STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; TO ALLOW STUDENTS AND PARENTS TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS REGARDING COLLEGE AND CAREER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE AN ECONOMIC SECURITY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS OUTCOMES FOR DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES EARNED AT STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND TO ALLOW STUDENTS AND PARENTS TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 60, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-60-105. Employment and earnings outcomes – Report.

(a)(1) Annually, beginning June 30, 2016, the Department of Workforce Services shall prepare or contract with an entity to prepare an economic security report of employment and earning outcomes for degrees and certificates earned at state-supported institutions of higher education.

(2) The report shall be made available online and shall be easily accessible and readable by the public.

(3) The report shall (A) Be broken down by educational sector



and:

(B) Use data available to the Department of Higher Education relating to the employment and earnings of graduates of degree or certificate programs from a state-supported institution of higher education;

(C) Use an integrated postsecondary education data system for calculating the average student loan debt of a graduate of a degree or certificate program from a state-supported institution of higher education;

(D) Include data on the employment of graduates of a degree or certificate program from a state-supported institution of higher education beginning the year after the degree or certificate is earned, including graduates employed full-time, by:

(i) Number; and

(ii) Percentage; and

(E) Include data on the earnings of graduates of a degree or certificate program at a state-supported institution of higher education beginning the year after the degree or certificate is earned, on an annual basis.

(b) Annually, beginning July 1, 2016, a four-year state-supported institution of higher education and a two-year state-supported institution of higher education shall provide an enrolled student with electronic access to the economic security report of employment and earnings outcomes prepared by the Department of Workforce Services before the student registers for classes.

(c) Each four-year state-supported institution of higher education and each two-year state-supported institution of higher education shall provide each student electronic access to the following information annually before the student registers for classes:

(1) The top twenty-five percent (25%) of certificates and degrees reported by the four-year state-supported institution of higher education in terms of the highest full-time job placement and highest average annual earnings in the year after certificate or degree completion; and

(2) The bottom ten percent (10%) of certificates and degrees reported by the four-year state-supported institution of higher education in terms of the lowest full-time job placement and lowest average annual earnings in the year after certificate or degree completion.

(d) Annually, beginning August 1, 2016, a public school student a

grade seven through grade twelve (7-12) or the student's parent or guardian shall receive a two-page summary of and electronic access to the Department of Workforce Service's economic security report of employment and earnings outcomes prepared under this section.

/s/A. Clark