

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

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

SENATE BILL 347

By: Senator Caldwell
By: Representative Hollowell

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO TRANSFER CROWLEY'S RIDGE TECHNICAL
INSTITUTE TO EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE; TO
DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO TRANSFER CROWLEY'S RIDGE TECHNICAL
INSTITUTE TO EAST ARKANSAS COMMUNITY
COLLEGE; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 51, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 11 –

Transfer of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to East Arkansas Community College

6-51-1101. Merger.

(a) On July 1, 2017, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute is merged with and into East Arkansas Community College.

(b) Except as provided in this subchapter, on July 1, 2017, all statutory authority, powers, duties, functions, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds, including the functions of budgeting or purchasing, of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute are transferred to East Arkansas Community College.



6-51-1102. Board of directors and ex officio board of trustees.

On the effective date of this act, the Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute is abolished, and the Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College shall assume the powers and duties of the Board of Directors of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute.

6-51-1103. Purchasing.

(a) On and after July 1, 2017, purchases by East Arkansas Community College may continue to be made under procedures that were applicable to East Arkansas Community College or may be made under procedures that were applicable to Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute.

(b) On and after July 1, 2017, flexibility in shop purchases, parts, and house construction programs shall continue in the same manner authorized for the original institutions.

6-51-1104. Transfer of assets, obligations, records, personnel, property, unexpended balances, and legal authority.

(a) On July 1, 2017, all property and other rights, claims, and assets of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute are transferred to East Arkansas Community College.

(b) On July 1, 2017, all obligations of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute are obligations of East Arkansas Community College.

(c)(1) Except as provided in subdivision (c)(2) of this section, on July 1, 2017, all records, personnel, property, unexpended balances, and legal authority are transferred from Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to East Arkansas Community College.

(2) The personnel transferred from Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to East Arkansas Community College shall comply with Section 3 of this act.

(d) On and after July 1, 2017, all cash fund balances of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute transferred to East Arkansas Community College shall be used for the operation, support, and improvement of occupational, vocational, technical, and workforce development programs of East Arkansas Community College.

6-51-1105. Funding from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund.

On and after July 1, 2017, funding from the Work Force 2000 Development Fund, which would have been provided to Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute, shall be provided to East Arkansas Community College to fund workforce development, vocational, occupational, and training programs offered by East Arkansas Community College.

6-51-1106. Funding from the Federal Adult Basic Education Fund.

On and after July 1, 2017, funding from the Federal Adult Basic Education Fund, which would have been provided to Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute, shall be provided to East Arkansas Community College.

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Significant changes in the day-to-day operations of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute before July 1, 2017, may impede the ability of the institution to merge seamlessly into East Arkansas Community College; and

(2) Additional guidance and restrictions are necessary to assure a smooth transition to the new institutional structure of East Arkansas Community College created by this act.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, on and after the effective date of this act and before July 1, 2017, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall not:

(1) Change its policies or procedures;

(2) Terminate an employee of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute;

(3) Transfer an employee of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute to a different position;

(4) Hire a new employee of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute;

or

(5) Destroy, mutilate, or alter documents, records, or other property maintained by Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute or its employees unless the destruction, mutilation, or alteration is made in the normal course of business and the nature of and reason for the destruction, mutilation, or alteration are recorded.

(c) If Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute determines that performance of one (1) or more of the actions prohibited in subsection (b) of this section are necessary to appropriately perform the duties or functions of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute:

(1) The Technical Institute Director or the Interim Technical Institute Director of Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute may request that the Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College permit performance of the action; and

(2) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College may grant or deny permission to perform the requested action.

(d) On and after the effective date of this act and before July 1, 2017, Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute shall provide to the President of East Arkansas Community College or his or her designee any document, record, testimony, explanation, or other information maintained by Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute or its employees upon the request of the President of East Arkansas Community College or his or her designee.

SECTION 3. Acts 2017, No. 94, § 1, is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the Crowley's Ridge Technical Institute for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2017-2018
(1)	N150N	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE N902
(2)	E009C	TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ASST DIRECTOR	3	GRADE C125
(3) <u>(1)</u>	E018C	SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL FACULTY	<u>42</u>	GRADE C122
(4) <u>(2)</u>	E022C	EDUCATION & INSTRUCTION MANAGER	1	GRADE C121
(5) <u>(3)</u>	E027C	CAREER & TECHNICAL FACULTY	30 <u>20</u>	GRADE C120
(6) <u>(4)</u>	G207C	FINANCIAL AID ANALYST	1	GRADE C115
(7) <u>(5)</u>	S033C	MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE C115
(8) <u>(6)</u>	A090C	PAYROLL SERVICES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C115
(9) <u>(7)</u>	A098C	FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE C112
(10) <u>(8)</u>	S050C	MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE C112

(11) (9)	A097C	PAYROLL TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE C112
(12) (10)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	5	GRADE C109
(13) (11)	S065C	MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT	<u>3</u>	GRADE C108
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES		<u>5438</u>	

SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. (a)(1) On or before January 31, 2018, active employees of Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute on June 30, 2017, who become employees of East Arkansas Community College under this act shall have the right to make a one-time choice between:

(A) The health insurance plan adopted by the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Board for state employees; or

(B) The East Arkansas Community College health insurance plan.

(2) On or before January 31, 2018, active employees of Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute on June 30, 2017, who become employees of East Arkansas Community College under this act shall have the right to make a one-time choice between:

(A) Remaining in his or her same retirement system under the same conditions then provided by law or as may later be provided by law; or

(B) The East Arkansas Community College retirement system plan.

(b) The Board of Directors of East Arkansas Community College shall promulgate rules establishing the procedure for employees to exercise benefit options under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 5. DO NOT CODIFY. EFFECTIVE DATE. Section 3 of this act shall become effective on July 1, 2017.

SECTION 6. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute should be merged with East Arkansas Community College; that the merger will be best for the state, Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute, and East Arkansas Community College; that cooperation between Crowley’s Ridge Technical Institute and East Arkansas Community College is necessary to effectuate the merger; and that this act is immediately necessary to allow a smooth

transition at the beginning of the fiscal year. 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.