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

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 553

By: Senators Bond, L. Chesterfield, Elliott
By: Representatives A. Collins, Blake, McCullough

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION; TO AMEND THE LAW TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO BE RETURNED TO LOCAL CONTROL UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW TO ALLOW A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO BE RETURNED TO LOCAL CONTROL UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2917(c), concerning the consequences of a public school district failing to meet the criteria to exit Level 5 — Intensive support after five (5) years, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) If the public school district has not demonstrated to the state board and the Department of Education that the public school district meets the criteria to exit Level 5 — Intensive support within five (5) years of the assumption of authority, the state board ~~shall~~ may annex, consolidate, or reconstitute the public school district under § 6-13-1401 et seq. and this subchapter.

(2) However, a public school district shall be returned to local

control if, after five (5) years of the assumption of authority by the state board under this section, the public school district has met any of the following criteria:

(A) The public school district has demonstrated substantial improvement of the issues that caused the classification of the public school district as being in need of Level 5 – Intensive support;

(B) The state board determines that:

(i) The public school district has adopted a plan to correct the issue or issues that caused the classification of the public school district as being in need of Level 5 – Intensive support; and

(ii) All public schools within the public school district that is classified as being in need of Level 5 – Intensive support are making demonstrable progress towards the removal of the Level 5 - Intensive support classification; or

(C) The number of public schools that are classified as in need of Level 5 – Intensive support within a public school district has increased while under the authority of the state board.

~~(2)~~(3) The state board ~~shall~~ may promulgate rules ~~to establish~~ regarding the criteria by which a public school district may exit Level 5 – Intensive support as established under subdivision (c)(2) of this section.