

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

SENATE BILL 619

By: Senator L. Eads
By: Representative Vaught

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD; TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-201 is amended to read as follows:

6-61-201. Members – Meetings.

(a)(1) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall consist of twelve (12) members appointed by the Governor as follows:

~~(A) Three (3) members shall be selected from the current or recent membership of the boards of public two-year colleges. If the person selected is serving on the membership of the board of a public two-year campus, the person shall relinquish his or her membership on the board;~~

~~(B) Three (3) members shall be selected from the current or recent membership of the boards of public four-year colleges or university campuses. If the person selected is serving on the membership of the board of a public four-year campus, the person shall relinquish his or her membership on the board; and~~

(A)(i) Six (6) members who shall be:



(a) Qualified electors of the State of Arkansas; and

(b) Graduates of public two-year or four-year institutions of higher education within the state.

(ii) If an appointee under this subdivision (a)(1)(A) is serving as a member of a board of a two-year or four-year institution of higher education at the time of appointment to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the appointee shall relinquish his or her membership on the board of the two-year or four-year institution of higher education; and

~~(C)(i)(B)(i)~~ Six (6) members shall be selected from business, industry, education, agriculturally related industry, and medical services and shall not be current members of a board of a public two-year or four-year ~~campus~~ institution of higher education.

(ii) At least one (1) of the appointees shall have a strong interest in and commitment to economic and workforce development.

(iii) At least one (1) of the appointees shall have experience in the knowledge-based technology field.

(2) No more than four (4) members of the ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall be appointed from any one (1) congressional district as the districts exist at the time of the appointment.

~~(3) No more than two (2) members of the board at any one (1) time shall be graduates of an undergraduate program of any one (1) state university or college.~~

~~(b)(1) After the appointment of the initial board, the members to be appointed from recent or current boards of two-year and four-year campuses shall be appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate.~~

~~(2) The Governor shall consult the Presidents Council before making an appointment under this section.~~

~~(e)(b)~~ Vacancies on the ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall be filled for the unexpired terms, and the appointments shall be made in the same manner as the positions vacated.

~~(d)(1)(c)(1)~~ The members of the ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall serve staggered terms of six (6) years.

(2) The terms of two (2) members shall expire each year.

~~(3) The members may serve no more than two (2) terms.~~

~~(e)~~(d) An intensive orientation program designed by the ~~council~~ Presidents Council shall be mandatory for ~~board~~ members of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

~~(f)~~(e) The ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board annually shall elect from its membership ~~a chair~~ the Chair of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and other officers necessary to carry on its business.

~~(g)~~(1)(f)(1) The ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall meet at least one (1) time during each calendar quarter and at other times upon the call of the chair or of any other four (4) members.

(2) The board shall, at the times that it desires, meet on the campuses of the respective public institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education in the state.

~~(h)~~(g) Members of the ~~board~~ Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall serve without compensation but may receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.