

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

State of Arkansas  
93rd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1955

By: Representative Cozart

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS OPPORTUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOL  
CHOICE ACT; TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT OF 2015; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS OPPORTUNITY  
PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT; AND TO AMEND  
PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
CONCERNING THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE ACT  
OF 2015.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-227(1), concerning the provision of information concerning the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act, is amended to read as follows:

(1)(1) A district under the public school choice program under this section shall request public service announcements to be made over the broadcast media and in the print media at such times and in such a manner as to inform parents or guardians of students in adjoining districts of the availability of the program under this section, the application deadline, and the requirements and procedure for nonresident students to participate in the program under this section.

(2)(A) Each public school district and public school, as



applicable, shall create a policy stating the method by which a parent or legal guardian may submit an application for the opportunity public school choice option under this section, including without limitation:

- (i) Regular mail;
- (ii) Email; and
- (iii) Hand delivery.

(B) A public school district and public school, as applicable, shall not require a parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis to file an application in person.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1905(e)(1), concerning notification of acceptance or rejection of an application for transfer under the Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (e)(4) of this section, by July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to enroll in a nonresident district under this subchapter, the superintendent of the nonresident district shall notify the parent or legal guardian and the resident district in writing as to whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected.

(B) If the parent or guardian of the student has applied to attend a school within the student's resident district, the resident district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student in writing as to whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected by July 1.

(C) For each application received under subdivision (a)(2)(B) of this section, the nonresident district or resident district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student in writing as to whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) calendar days of the application being received.