

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

State of Arkansas      *As Engrossed: H2/14/23 H2/23/23 S3/16/23*  
94th General Assembly      **A Bill**  
Regular Session, 2023

HOUSE BILL 1030

By: Representative S. Meeks

*By: Senator J. English*

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING AGE AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS; TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL BE OPEN AND FREE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

CONCERNING AGE AND RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDING PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS FOR WHOM PUBLIC SCHOOLS SHALL BE OPEN AND FREE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-202(b)(1) and (2), concerning the individuals for whom public schools of any school district in the State of Arkansas shall be open and free, are amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The public schools of any school district in this state shall be open and free through completion of the secondary program to all persons in this state between five (5) and twenty-one (21) years of age ~~whose:~~

(A) Whose parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the person, or person standing in loco parentis resides within the school district; ~~and to all persons between those ages who~~

(B) Who have been legally transferred to the school district for education purposes.

(2) For purposes of this section, a student may use the residential address of a legal guardian, person having legal, lawful control



of the student under order of a court, or person standing in loco parentis only if the ~~student~~:

(A) Student resides at the same residential address; and  
~~if the guardianship~~

(B)(i) Guardianship or other legal authority of the student is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance purposes.

(ii) However, subdivision (b)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall not apply to a host family of an international exchange student placed by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-202(g), concerning age and residence for attending public schools and students' ability to participate in the Public School Choice Act of 2015, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(g) This section shall not be construed to restrict a student's ability to ~~participate~~:

(1) Participate in a tuition agreement with a nonresident school district; ~~or to officially~~

(2) Officially transfer to another school district pursuant to the Public School Choice Act of 2015, § 6-18-1901 et seq.; ~~or~~

(3) Attend school as an international exchange student placed with a host family by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-18-234. Attendance of international exchange student – Required – Definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Host family" means the individual or family with whom an international exchange student is placed by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange

Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.; and

(2) "International exchange student" means a student who is placed with a host family by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq.

(b) A public school in the public school district in which a host family resides shall admit for enrollment and attendance at the public school an international exchange student who has been placed with the host family.

(c) A public school district that admits an international exchange student may:

(1)(A) Upon his or her arrival, require the international exchange student to submit to quarantine to prevent the spread of infectious diseases as may be necessary.

(B) A quarantine required under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section shall not exceed seven (7) days unless otherwise recommended by the Department of Health or Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

(2) Expel or suspend the international exchange student from the public school based on a:

(A) Violation of the school district's written student discipline policies, as required under § 6-18-507; or

(B) Danger that the international exchange student presents to the students attending and individuals employed by the school district; and

(3)(A) Establish a limit on the total number of international exchange students each public school within the public school district may accept for enrollment in each public school.

(B) A limit established for a public school under subdivision (c)(3)(A) of this section shall be no fewer than one (1) international exchange student per fifty (50) students enrolled in the public school in which the international exchange student intends to enroll according to the school's average daily membership in the school year immediately preceding the current school year.

(d) A public school district shall have the option of whether or not to:

(1)(A) Include test results achieved by an international exchange student enrolled in the public school district in state-mandated

assessments.

(B) A public school district shall include or exclude the test results achieved by each international exchange student enrolled in the public school as a group; and

(2) Provide English-language services.

(e) Before a public school district is required to accept an international exchange student under this section, the public school district may require the international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq., that is placing the international exchange student to:

(1) Be certified by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel;

(2) Provide documented proof of the international exchange student's English proficiency; and

(3) Notify the public school district at least three (3) weeks before the beginning of the academic semester in which the international exchange student is planning to enroll in the public school district.

/s/S. Meeks