

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

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

As Engrossed: S3/27/23
A Bill

SENATE BILL 387

By: Senator J. English

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS MILITARY CHILD SCHOOL TRANSITIONS ACT OF 2021; TO AMEND FEDERAL CITATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE DEFINITION OF "ACTIVE DUTY"; TO REQUIRE A PUBLIC SCHOOL MILITARY FAMILY EDUCATION COORDINATOR BE INCLUDED IN ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT PLAN; TO AMEND THE QUORUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ARKANSAS COUNCIL FOR MILITARY CHILDREN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS MILITARY CHILD SCHOOL TRANSITIONS ACT OF 2021.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-4-302, Article II, concerning the definition of "active duty" used within the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, is amended to read as follows:

A. "Active duty" means: full-time duty status in the active uniformed *service* of the United States, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. ~~Section~~ Chapters 1209 and 1211.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-28-104, concerning the definition of "active duty" as it is used under the Arkansas Military Child School Transitions Act of 2021, is amended to read as follows:



(2) "Active duty" means full-time duty status in the active, uniformed services of the United States, including without limitation members of the National Guard and reserve components of the uniformed services on active duty orders under ~~10 U.S.C. §§~~ 10 U.S.C. Chapters 1209 and 1210 or 42 U.S.C. § 204, as they existed on January 1, 2021;

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-28-116 is amended to read as follows:

6-28-116. New student reception programs – Military family education coordinators.

A public school with twenty (20) or more children of military families enrolled as students under this chapter or a public school district with at least three thousand (3,000) enrolled public school students shall:

(1) Incorporate into the policies of the public school district specific procedures that outline actions to take in support of students who are the children of military families who transition to and from the public school district; and

(2)(A) Designate in each public school district a military family education coordinator to serve as the primary point of contact for each child of a military family and his or her parent or legal guardian.

(B) The public school military family education coordinator shall ~~have~~:

(i) Have specialized knowledge regarding the educational needs of children of military families and the obstacles that children of military families face in obtaining an education; and

(ii) Be included in the establishment and adoption of a public school district's and public school's parent and family engagement plan as required under § 6-15-1702.

(C) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall supply relevant resources for the orientation and training of public school military family education coordinators under this section.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-28-203(a)(6), concerning the inclusion of the Executive Director of the Arkansas Activities Association on the Arkansas Council for Military Children, is amended to read as follows:

(6) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Activities Association, or his or her designee;

SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-28-203, concerning the members serving on the Arkansas Council for Military Children, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The identification of a designee who shall serve in lieu of a council member and with the same authority of the council member under this section shall be provided to the council in writing.

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-28-204(e), concerning the purpose and duties of the Arkansas Council for Military Children, is amended to read as follows:

(e)(1) A majority of all council members shall constitute a quorum at council meetings.

(2) The absence of the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education or the Chair of the House Committee on Education or designees from each of the committees shall not count against a quorum.

/s/J. English