

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

As Engrossed: H2/6/19

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1223

5 By: Representative M. Gray  
6 By: Senator Irvin  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO ALLOW CERTAIN PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL  
10 EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE AND PUBLIC  
11 SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND FOR  
12 OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO ALLOW CERTAIN PART-TIME PUBLIC SCHOOL  
16 EMPLOYEES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STATE AND  
17 PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE  
18 PROGRAM.  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 21-5-410(g), concerning eligibility to  
25 participate in the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 (g)(1) ~~Beginning in the 2015 plan year, The following persons are~~  
28 eligible to participate in the program:

29 (A) ~~A public school employee is eligible to participate in~~  
30 ~~the program if the public school employee who~~ is in a position that requires  
31 on average at least thirty (30) hours per week of actual performance of duty  
32 during the annual school year; and

33 (B) A full-time school bus driver who is employed by a  
34 public school district to drive regular routes during the annual school year.

35 (2) A public school employee who is not a full-time school bus  
36 driver and who is in a variable hour position is ineligible to participate in



1 the program.

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3 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 21-5-410, concerning the eligibility to  
4 participate in the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program,  
5 is amended to add additional subsections to read as follows:

6 (h) As used in this section, "full-time school bus driver" means a  
7 person:

8 (1) Who contracts with a public school district to operate a  
9 school bus for at least seven hundred twenty (720) hours during the school  
10 year;

11 (2) Whose primary source of income during the school year is  
12 obtained by operating a school bus for a public school district; or

13 (3) Who contracts with a public school district to operate a  
14 school bus and is designated by the superintendent as a full-time school bus  
15 driver, regardless of the number of hours for which the person contracted.

16 (i) All school bus drivers who are not eligible under current law to  
17 participate in the group insurance program provided for by §§ 6-17-1109 and  
18 6-17-1112 – 6-17-1115 are eligible to participate in the group insurance  
19 program provided that they pay all costs associated with participating in the  
20 group insurance program unless the employing school district opts to pay all  
21 or a portion of those costs.

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23 /s/M. Gray  
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