

1 State of Arkansas
2 94th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2023
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1587

5 By: Representative Wooten
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING HOME SCHOOLS; TO REQUIRE HOME
9 SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVE ANY FORM OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO
10 ADMINISTER AN ANNUAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT; AND FOR
11 OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

14 TO REQUIRE HOME SCHOOLS THAT RECEIVE ANY
15 FORM OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO ADMINISTER AN
16 ANNUAL STUDENT ASSESSMENT.
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20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-501 is amended to read as follows:
23 6-15-501. Definition.

24 As used in this subchapter, except as provided in § 6-15-511, “home
25 school” means a school provided by a parent or legal guardian for his or her
26 own child.
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28 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-507, concerning the ineligibility of
29 home schools for local, state, or federal funds, is amended to add an
30 additional subsection to read as follows:

31 (c) A home school that is eligible to receive any form of public
32 funds, whether or not those funds are allocated to a public school district,
33 shall not receive those public funds until it has administered a student
34 assessment as required by § 6-15-511 to each homeschooled student enrolled in
35 the home school at the expense of the home school.
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1 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 5, is amended
2 to add an additional section to read as follows:

3 6-15-511. Conditions under which an assessment is required.

4 (a)(1) Each student enrolled in a home school program who is seven (7)
5 years of age through seventeen (17) years of age on October 1 of each school
6 year shall be tested annually using a nationally recognized norm-referenced
7 assessment approved by the State Board of Education.

8 (2) The administration of assessments under this section shall:

9 (A) Be as designated by the Division of Elementary and
10 Secondary Education; and

11 (B)(i) Include purchasing the assessment materials, giving
12 the assessments, scoring and interpreting the assessments, and reporting the
13 assessment results.

14 (ii) The cost of the administration of assessments
15 under this section shall be the responsibility of the home school.

16 (3)(A) Alternative assessment procedures may be approved by the
17 division after consultation with the parent or legal guardian of a
18 homeschooled student.

19 (B) However, any costs associated with an alternative
20 assessment procedure under subdivision (a)(3)(A) of this section shall be the
21 responsibility of the home school.

22 (b) As used in this section, "home school" means a school that:

23 (1) Is provided by a parent or legal guardian for his or her own
24 child; and

25 (2) Receives any form of public funds, whether or not those
26 public funds are allocated to a public school district.

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