

1 State of Arkansas  
2 90th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2015  
4

*As Engrossed: S3/10/15*  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 681

5 By: Senator A. Clark  
6 *By: Representative Cozart*  
7

8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 *AN ACT TO MODIFY THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON TO*  
10 *SERVE AS THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION; TO DECLARE AN*  
11 *EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*  
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14 **Subtitle**

15 *TO MODIFY THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON*  
16 *TO SERVE AS THE COMMISSIONER OF*  
17 *EDUCATION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.*  
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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 § 6-11-102(c)(1), concerning the Commissioner  
23 of Education, is amended to read as follows:

24 (c)(1) The person selected as the commissioner ~~must~~ shall:

25 (A) Be a person of good moral character, recognized as a  
26 leader in the field of education, and qualified technically and by experience  
27 to direct the work of the department; and

28 (B) Unless a deputy commissioner meets the requirements of  
29 this subdivision (c)(1)(B), a person selected as commissioner shall:

30 (i) Hold a master's degree from an accredited  
31 institution;

32 ~~(C)(ii)~~ Have had ten (10) years' experience as a teacher,  
33 five (5) of which must be of an administrative or supervisory nature; and

34 ~~(D)(iii)~~ Hold a valid state teacher's license.  
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36 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the



1 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Commissioner of Education  
2 is critical to the success of public education; that the qualities of a  
3 Commissioner of Education have changed along with the education system in  
4 general; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure that the  
5 requirements for the Commissioner of Education are appropriate. Therefore, an  
6 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for  
7 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
8 effective on:

9 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

10 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
11 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
12 bill; or

13 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
14 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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16 /s/A. Clark

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19 **APPROVED: 03/18/2015**  
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