

HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION - 89TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2013)

ACADEMICS: GENERAL

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
90	Hillman	Makes various changes to provisions that regulate the professional licensing of certified public accountants.
173	Teague	Makes technical changes to state law governing dietitians, changing reference to the American Dietetic Association to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; changing national certification agency to the Institute for Credentialing Excellence.
219	Fite	Amends various sections of law related to the licensing of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists.
280	Hendren	Creates the Institutional Energy Research Committee to coordinate energy research activities at state-supported institutions and to create the Arkansas Energy Summary and Report.
281	Johnson	Requires education requirements for real estate license holders to include at least 45 hours in courses developed by the Real Estate Commission; adds annual continuing education requirements.
302	Chesterfield	Requires nursing education programs to notify applicants in writing of the background check requirements for nursing licensure.
330	Clemmer, Lindsey	Requires schools and public institutions of higher education to transmit only electronic transcripts when transmitting among schools and to the Higher Education Department.
403	Hobbs	Adds a member to the Early Childhood Commission, who shall represent the Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, Council of Deans.
413	Hobbs, Holland	Adds the completion of a two-year accelerated teaching program as a valid credential for meeting nontraditional teacher licensure requirements.
454	Elliott, Lenderman	Exempts persons applying for Arkansas licensure who hold teacher license in other states from requirement to furnish evidence of passing test scores on basic-skills assessment if the person has three years of documented teaching experience.
455	Elliott, Lenderman	Revises provisions related to background checks for educators and school staff, deleting requirement the Department of Education pay for criminal background checks, adding to the list of disqualifying criminal offenses, more.
533	Hutchinson, Carnine	Revises the qualifications for the director and key staff of the Higher Education Department, deleting the requirement that the director and key staff must be experienced educators in the field of higher education.
604	Cheatham	Changes the classification of Advanced Practice Nurse to Advanced Practice Registered Nurse and establishes qualifications for that license and amends qualifications for other nursing license.
971	Gillam	Exempts higher education accreditation agencies from required recognition by the U.S. Department of Education when the agencies only provide accreditation for religious institutions that prepare students for religious vocations.
998	Steel	Prohibits institutions of higher education from causing a current or prospective employee to disclose his or her username or password or change privacy settings to social media accounts, or to refuse to hire a prospect for exercising this right.
1063	Copenhaver	Authorizes the State Board of Career Education to charge fees for administering assessments, including the general educational development test, and for the creation of transcripts and diplomas.
1285	Mayberry	Establishes the College and Career Coaches Program to be administered by the Department of Career Education in partnership with ADE and the Department of Higher Education.
1294	Elliott	Requires public schools to screen students K-2 for dyslexia and related disorders and provide intervention and treatment for students identified as having dyslexia.
1324	K. Ingram	Allows institutions of higher education to bring civil action against athletic agents and other persons who knowingly take action resulting in damages to the institution caused by violations of athletic association or conference rules.
1416	Ingram	Requires enrollment in a combined General Education Development program and postsecondary credential program to be eligible for the Workforce Improvement Grant Program.

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ACADEMICS: K-12 EDUCATION

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
75	Eubanks	Eliminates the advisory committee formed to study use of a standardized date for spring break in public schools, leaving the standard date as the 38th week of the school year.
107	Chesterfield	Provides for the Legislative Council to conduct, or require the Education Committees to conduct, a study of the readiness, prevention and response policies for acts of violence in public schools.
328	Mayberry, Woods	Authorizes public schools to offer American Sign Language as a modern language or as a foreign language and to give academic credit equal to other foreign language courses.
416	Shepherd	Adds selection of the student as a finalist in the National Hispanic Recognition Program to the list of qualifications indicating Extraordinary Academic Ability for purposes of the Governor's Scholars Program.
420	McLean, Key	Makes various changes to Title 6 regarding the Commission for Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation, and the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation.
421	McLean, Key	Authorizes the State Board of Education to grant a waiver of a standard for accreditation when a district certifies that two separate curriculum frameworks will be combined or embedded into one course (for grades 5-12).
514	Douglas	Creates § 6-18-107, requiring public schools to report the enrollment of military dependents.
517	Key, Lenderman	Increases the contribution of school districts to the Public School Employees' Health Insurance program from \$131 to \$150 per month for each eligible employee participating in the program.
599	Nickels	Requires public school students In seventh or eighth grade to participate in either a visual arts or a performing arts course.
601	Elliot, Lenderman	Create District of Innovation Program with targets - achievement gaps, student standards. Effective 4/4/2013
625	Elliott	Establishes the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program to prepare more students for higher education success, postsecondary training, and careers in science, technology engineering and math. Effective 4/4/2013
696	Hendren	Prescribes requirements for content of the annual school report card.
969	Eubanks	Makes various changes to provisions for school personnel professional development. Effective 4/8/2013
757	Bell	Allows school districts to authorize a school nurse to provide or administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a student who has an authorizing health plan or who the nurse believes to be having an anaphylactic reaction.
1044	Dismang	Expands the definition of sexual assault in the first degree to include a faculty or staff at a public or private K-12 school engaging in intercourse or deviant sexual activity with a student under 21 years old.
1064	Burnett	Creates a capital grant program for open enrollment charter schools to be administered by the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation of the Department of Education.
1081	Key, Carnine	Revises the student testing and assessment program of the Department of Education, dropping certain end-of-course subject assessments and implementing next generation assessments that measure the full range of student performance. Effective 4/11/2013
1099	Johnson	Prohibits the use of e-cigarettes on public school property.
1228	Key, Biviano	Amends the Public School Choice Act to limit to one transfer per school year
1280	Douglas	Creates the Digital Learning Act of 2013, requiring all school districts and charter schools to provide at least on distance learning course beginning in 2013-14.
1288	Murdock	Requires school districts to report data to the Division of Public School Academic Facilities and Transportation regarding bus routes and the cost of implementing certain maximum route times, to be decreased each year from 2014 to 2019.
1289	Malone	Requires that a student who joins the National Guard at 17 years of age while in grade elevent be granted additional absences at the discretion of the school district superintendent, in order to complete basic combat training.

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1314	King	Creates the Advisory Board between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing or Oral Deaf within the Department of Health, prescribes qualifications for licensure and requires licensing of interpreters.
1322	Key, Clemmer	Changes the term "excessive absences" to "unexcused absences" for purposes of attendance policies of public schools.
1323	Irvin	Requires educators in supervisory roles to file ethics complaints if they have cause to suspect another educator of engaging in sexual abuse of a student.
1326	Elliott	Establishes the Whole Child - Whole Community Recognition Working Group to study and make recommendations on student learning, safety, physical and emotional health and college or job readiness.
1358	Hammer	Removes the cost of insurance, utilities and facilities maintenance from the definition of "athletic expenditures" and requires districts to document and include total athletic expenditures in the school budget and report same to the Department of Education.
1462	Word	Redefines Smart Core as a college and career readiness curriculum and requires students in grades 9 - 11 to take the ACT Assessment beginning with the 2014-15 school year. Effective 7/1/2014
1467	McLean, Key	Sets per-student foundation and categorical funding for 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years.
1481	Armstrong	Authorizes education service cooperatives to receive funding from public or private sources to employ additional truancy officers for school districts with high dropout rates.
1482	Armstrong	Authorizes the Department of Education to provide transportation funding aid to school districts and for schools to use national school lunch funding for transport of students to certain regional community alternative learning centers
1507	Flowers	Expands authorization for public schools to permit members of the community to use land or school facilities for community purposes; authorizing school districts to charge a fee or accept gifts to offset the cost of the use.

ATHLETICS

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
1096	Hickey	Expands the authority of the State Athletic Commission to include professional wrestling; puts a representative of the field of medicine with a background in combative sports on the commission; more.
1324	Ingram	Allows institutions of higher education to bring civil action against athletic agents and other persons who knowingly take action resulting in damages to the institution caused by violations of athletic association or conference rules.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
HJR1009	Sabin, Woods	To propose an amendment to the constitution known as the Arkansas Elected Officials Ethics, Transparency, and Financial Reform Amendment of 2014.
SJR16	Sample	Proposes an amendment to the Arkansas Constitution to allow corrections to insufficient state-wide petitions only if the petition contains valid signatures of legal voters of at least 90% of the required signatures from each of at least 15 counties.
SRJ7	Dismang	Proposes an amendment to the Constitution regarding administrative rules promulgated by state agencies.

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CONSTRUCTION AND FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
253	Rice	Provides for large nonresidential utility customers to opt-out of the utility-sponsored conservation programs otherwise required by the Public Service Commission. Effective 7/1/2013
318	Linck	Requires consolidated school districts to donate, or lease with a low cost, unused property to an institution of higher education, nonprofit organization, county, or city for preservation or educational use.
422	Baltz	Authorizes community colleges and technical colleges that operate a law enforcement training academy or fire training academy to to construct dormitory or barracks to house students.
494	Vines, Wyatt	Increases the bid threshold for contracts for renovation of historic sites from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to make the requirement; allows counties to separately procure commodities, professional services and construction work for purposes of the bid threshold.
526	Lindsey, Alexander	Increases from \$400,000 to \$750,000 the maximum amount that state agencies and institution of higher education may contract on job order bids.
541	Barnett	Extends the otherwise expiring authority of the Highway Commission to maintain qualified design-build projects; removes the two-project limit and the requirement that eligible projects be in excess of fifty million dollars.
554	Johnson, Leding	Allows state agencies to use maintenance and operations appropriations for debt service related to guaranteed energy cost savings contracts and revises certain qualification requirements of service providers.
1078	Rapert	Authorizes the Public Service Commission to regulate energy demand aggregators, defined as entities that aggregate energy demand from end-use customers for selling the demand to utilities or wholesale energy markets.
1221	Branscum	Allows the Public Service Commission to increase the peak limits for individual net-metering facilities and requires any excess generation amount to be credited to the customer's account for use during the next billing cycle.

GENERAL FISCAL AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
7	Sample, Bill	Makes technical changes to provisions authorizing community college boards to levy a millage for operations; specifically authorizes the funds to be used for debt retirement resulting from construction bonds.
88	Whitaker	Requires members of advertising and promotion commissions to file statements of financial interest
110	Ingram	Revises procedures for addressing delinquent bond payments by a school district.
217	Hillman	Requires appropriate action by the local depository board for a local government to become a party to a local government joint investment trust.
312	Bell, English	Prohibits state agencies and public officials from expending funds in support or opposition of a ballot initiative.
458	Maloch	Deletes requirement that limits investment of public funds to bank certificates of deposit
957	Hendren	Exempts federal, state and other student aid received by persons and their spouses who are active duty or reserve military from the definition of student aid package for purposes of scholarship stacking.
1056	Bell	Provides legal assistance to a state or political subdivision filing a civil lawsuit against a public official or employee when an audit reflects unauthorized disbursements or unaccounted-for funds or property.
1078	Rapert, Wren	Authorizes the Public Service Commission to regulate energy demand aggregators, defined as entities that aggregate energy demand from end-use customers for selling the demand to utilities or wholesale energy markets.

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1087	Files	Authorizes quorum courts to refer to voters the question of extension of the period in which a special sales and use tax for capital improvements of a community college is to be in effect.
1224	J. Burris	Requires the Chief Fiscal Officer to report revised state revenue forecasts for the current fiscal year to the Joint Committee on Economic and Tax Policy when he reports forecasts of available general revenues
1225	J. Burris	Prohibits naming public facilities after an elected official still living within 10 years of its construction.
1241	Maloch	Allows municipalities and counties to pledge special sales tax proceeds to bonds for "surface transportation projects" including sidewalks, trails, bike paths, curbs, gutters, land and right-of-way acquisitions, in addition to streets and bridges.
1251	Bookout	Authorizes the DHS-Division of Mental Health Services, in cooperation with the Arkansas Building Authority, to donate property to community mental health clinics and centers, in addition to existing authority to sell or lease such property.
1252	Johnson, Williams	The State Entity Energy Efficiency Project Bond Act, authorizing the Development Finance Authority to issue bonds for financing energy efficiency projects. Prescribes qualifying energy efficiency projects.
1278	Ratliff	Amends the Educational Excellence Trust Fund law including incremental pay increases for experience or advanced hours or degrees within the definition of "salary increase".
1393	Joint Budget	Makes various revisions to the Revenue Classification Law. Effective 7/1/2013
1405	Teague	Authorizes the director of the Department of Finance and Administration to transfer to a state agency purchasing a vehicle an amount to cover applicable state and local sales and use taxes, as well as the price of the vehicle. Effective 4/23/2013
1516	Joint Budget	Makes various changes to the Revenue Stabilization Law regarding the Solid Waste Management Fund. Effective 7/1/2013
1517	Baird	Amends the Revenue Stabilization Law to allocate budgeted state revenue for fiscal year 2013-14. Effective 7/1/2013
1519	Joint Budget	Establishes the 89th Session Projects Account providing for distribution of General Improvement Fund monies. Effective 7/1/2013

HEALTH CARE

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
72	Wilkins	Prohibits health insurance exchange policies from covering abortions that are not the result of rape or incest, and are not the result of an attempt to prevent the mother's death. Regulates supplemental abortion coverage outside the exchange.
137	Johnson	Authorizes direct patient payments for dental hygiene services when the consulting dentist is not a participating provider under the terms of the patient's insurance carrier.
274	Wright	Authorizes pharmacists to substitute a therapeutically equivalent drug that is at a lower cost to the patient, when given authorization in the prescription. (SB386)
331	Kizzia	Deletes the specific reference to "employer sponsored group" health insurance in provision regarding a retiree who elects to return to retiree insurance after first declining retiree insurance because of other coverage.
338	Irvin	Requires the Insurance Commissioner to develop a uniform prior authorization form and requires health care insurers to use the form to request prior authorization for coverage of a prescription drug benefit.
342	Dismang, Farrer	Requires health care insurance companies to pay comparable reimbursements to physicians and physical, occupational, and speech-language therapists.
427	Ferguson	Requires health insurers to consult licensed dentists for review of dental claims that are denied and requires written communication of the reviewing dentist's contact information to the treating dentist upon request. Effective 3/15/2013

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428	Pierce	Requires that insurance coverage of newborn children include coverage for tests for all genetic disorders in addition to those specifically listed.
464	Kerr, Dismang	Requires health carriers to provide means for a surgeon to obtain an exception and coverage for a surgical procedure or medical device for an individual patient for which coverage is otherwise denied by the carrier.
536	Dismang	Prohibiting substitutions of therapeutically equivalent drugs by a pharmacist without authorization from the prescriber except for specific acts of drug therapy management or disease state management delegated to a pharmacist based on a patient care plan.
766	Bledsoe	The Peer Review Fairness Act, requiring medical staff to conduct investigations of physicians and other practitioners, prescribes hearings, legal representation. Appeals, and judicial review.
1109	Wardlaw, Bookout	Prohibiting the DHS-Division of Medical Services from entering into a Medicaid integrity audit contract that bases the auditor's compensation on the amount of overpayments identified or collected by the auditor.
1169	Maloch	Establishes State Medical Board guidelines to regulate the authorization of physicians to dispense legend drugs; removes a grandfather clause that allowed physicians licensed prior to 1983 to dispense legend drugs without prior approval. Effective 4/12/2013
1194	Caldwell	Establishes guidelines for allowing pharmacy benefits managers to place a generic drug on a Maximum Allowable Cost List (Medicaid excepted); allows for appeals by pharmacies; makes violations of the guidelines a deceptive trade practice.
1218	Wardlaw	Excludes ambulances owned and operated by a licensed hospital for its' own admitted patients from regulations for nonemergency ambulance services.
1226	Hawthorne	Requires health benefit plans to provide for corrective surgery for craniofacial anomaly if surgery and treatment are medically necessary to improve a functional impairment.
1233	Maloch	Authorizes the Insurance Commissioner to issue rules governing payment standards for health benefit plans in regards to coverage for orthotic and prosthetic devices.
1259	Bledsoe	Requires health insurance providers to use Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System G code for digital mammography and to reimburse this procedure at least 1.5 time the Medicare reimbursement rate.
1260	Woods, Harris	Requires health benefit plans to notify enrollees at least 60 days before an increase in the enrollees' financial responsibility for a prescription drug if the increase is due to a change of the plan's drug formulary. Effective 1/1/2014
1264	Irvin	The "Arkansas Healthcare Decisions Act", providing for an adult individual to authorize a designated agent to execute advance directives that provide for health care decisions in the event the individual loses capacity; prescribes guidelines, restrictions
1330	Rapert, Biviano	Creates the Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Compact, in conjunction with other participating states, a joint public agency for the purpose of developing uniform standards for long-term care insurance products.
1339	Burriss	Authorizes the Insurance Commissioner to consider a nonprofit insurer's surplus levels in determining whether a proposed rate is excessive.
1361	S. Malone	Prohibits optometrists from possessing, administering or prescribing Schedule I and II pharmaceuticals except hydrocodone combination drugs.
1433	D. Johnson	Transfers the authority of the director of the Department of Human Services related to health maintenance organizations, including contracting and investigation of violations, to the Insurance Commissioner.

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HUMAN RESOURCES

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
8	Williams	Allows board and commissions that issue licenses, certification or permits to issue temporary license to spouses of active duty service members to facilitate employment while completing the application for permanent license.
134	Lampkin	Amends the definition of 'child' for purpose of state employees' participation in children's educational leave to include a developmentally disabled child.
211	Bell, Woods	Authorizes the Arkansas Claims Commission to recommend reward payments for public employees whose actions under the Whistle-Blower Act result in a savings of public funds and provides for an appeal process via the Legislature.
229	Broadaway	Increases from 20 days to 30 days the period after service of the writ of garnishment that an garnishee has to answer the interrogatories.
317	Dale	Clarifies that payment of child support arrearage or judgment continues after the obligor's current duty to pay otherwise ceases until the arrearage is satisfied.
381	Sanders	Requires ballot question committees, public servants and candidates to include on their financial reports all expenditures made by an advertising agency, public relations firm or political consultant on behalf of the committee or person.
457	Teague	Exempts organized camps and religious or nonprofit educational conference centers from minimum wage requirements if the entity operates no more that seven months per year or does not meet certain receipt thresholds. Effective 3/21/2013
474	Hammer	Requires potential employers to provide veterans with notification upon request of their numerical scores, in the event that the veterans are not selected for a position based on a difference in the numerical score versus that of the successful candidate.
486	Sanders	Prohibits registration as a lobbyist by constitutional officers, legislators, judges, the Insurance Commissioner, a Public Service Commissioner and executive heads and chief deputies of state agencies within one year of leaving office.
508	Gossage	Regulates sex offender registration for those adjudicated in federal court, the District of Columbia, a U.S. territory, an Indian tribe, or for a military offense, or a foreign country with an independent judiciary that enforces the right to a fair trial.
706	English	Requires public officials and candidates for office to include in their statements of financial interest the name and address of each governmental body to which the person is obligated for a past due amount, plus description and amount of the debt.
956	Chesterfield	Amends various provisions related to unemployment compensation, including the addition of a definition of misconduct in connection with work as a disqualification for benefits; procedure for recovery of overpayments; more. Effective 7/1/2013
990	Hobbs	Creates a list of non-violent offenses for which a conviction does not disqualify a person from employment with certain health service providers; requires providers to notify the appropriate licensing authority when employing such persons. Effective 4/8/2013
993	Fite	Requiring the central registry to notify a state agency of information naming an applicant for a relevant job within 7 days (previously 3 days) of the request; requires a state check for certain employees who were exempt with proof of a recent check.
997	Catlett	Providing for shared leave of a public employee's earned sick leave or earned annual leave to another employee suffering from a severe illness or with an immediate family member suffering a severe illness.
998	Steel	Prohibits institutions of higher education from causing a current or prospective employee to disclose his or her username or password or change privacy settings to social media accounts, or to refuse to hire a prospect for exercising this right.
1077	Bledsoe	Adds types of employee conduct which can disqualify persons from receiving unemployment benefits when the conduct leads to their termination.
1080	Woods, Bell	Shields from disclosure under applicable state or federal law the name and identifying information of a state employee making a whistleblower claim if confidentiality is requested by the employee.

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1191	Caldwell	Provides for an increase in an employer's additional contribution assessments of the workers' compensation stabilization tax and allows the stabilization tax to be credited to the separate accounts of each employer.
1321	Lindsey	Revises the compensation plan under the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act for the 2013-2015 period. Effective 7/1/2013
1458	Neal	Requires the Department of Finance and Administration to maintain a web page with workforce-related information for employers and links to applications for required reporting, tax payments and other data submissions.
1480	Steel	Prohibits private and public employers from causing a current or prospective employee to disclose his or her username or password or change privacy settings to social media accounts, or to refuse to hire a prospect for exercising this right.
1493	Leding	Allows certain nonimmigrant persons, their spouses and children to apply for driver's licenses and other I.D. Cards by offering paperwork demonstrating their legal status or application for extension of legal status.

LOTTERY AND FINANCIAL AID

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
234	Gillam, Key	Replaces the Scholarship Lottery award amount for full-time students from \$4,500 per student to a graduated scale awarding between \$2,000 and \$5,000 per student, based on the year of college the student is currently in. Effective 3/1/2013
416	Shepherd	Adds selection of the student as a finalist in the National Hispanic Recognition Program to the list of qualifications indicating Extraordinary Academic Ability for purposes of the Governor's Scholars Program.
512	Clemmer	Requires the Department of Higher Education to ensure that the weight assigned to criteria for the Governor's Scholars Program does not place a home-schooled student at a disadvantage. Effective 3/26/2013
957	Hendren	Exempts federal, state and other student aid received by persons and their spouses who are active duty or reserve military from the definition of student aid package for purposes of scholarship stacking.
1011	S. Malone	Amends § 6-60-211(a), authorizing the General Assembly to waive 100% of the public tuition (previously 25%) for soldiers and airmen of the Arkansas National Guard.
1012	S. Malone	Changes service-member eligibility for the Arkansas National Guard Tuition Incentive Program.
1106	Hammer	Requires nontraditional students who receive Academic Challenge (lottery) Scholarships to repay the full award scholarship if they do not complete a degree or certificate, or receive a waiver from the Higher Education Department.
1173	Key	Amends various provisions governing the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program. Effective 4/12/2013
1263	Thompson	Amends the Arkansas Challenge Scholarship Program to include students who obtain a GED before the end of what would have been their junior or senior year of high school.
1269	Files	Requires the Department of Higher Education to report the race, GPA, ACT score and income of all recipients of the Academic Scholarship Program, Part 2, to the Lottery Commission Legislative Oversight Committee by Dec. 31, of each year.
1416	Ingram	Requires enrollment in a combined General Education Development program and postsecondary credential program to be eligible for the Workforce Improvement Grant Program.

MISCELLANEOUS

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
26	Gillam, Caldwell	Adds portions of Highway 67 to route designated as the Rock 'n' Roll Highway.
144	Hickey, Hickerson	Removes the statute of limitations for certain sex crimes involving minors.

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145	Holland	Prohibits release of names and zip codes of applicants for or holders of a concealed handgun license. Effective 2/22/2013
167	Hutchison	Authorizes the Governor to designate a person as the state's Artist Laureate, selected from a list of recommendations submitted to the Governor by a committee of fine arts department heads.
226	Collins, Hester	Allows staff members of public college and universities who possess a concealed handgun license to carry weapons on campus unless otherwise prohibited by § 5-73-306. Excludes colleges and universities from 5-73-306(19)(A) provision for prohibiting handguns.
227	Bibiano, Dismang	Authorizes private colleges and universities to maintain their own on-campus law enforcement agency; authorizes their security employees to attend the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy and attain law enforcement officer status.
290	Hammer	Prohibits property owners' improvement districts from using eminent domain to acquire lands or rights-of-way outside of their boundaries, or water or sewer utilities within their boundaries but owned by a municipality or other improvement district. Effective 3/6/2013
422	Baltz, Rapert	Authorizes community colleges and technical colleges that operate a law enforcement training academy or fire training academy to to construct dormitory or barracks to house students.
501	Love	Provides for the Internet as the primary means of distributing state agency publications, making some printed publications available by request only, with exceptions for public information pamphlets, financial reports, and other distributions.
504	Hammer	Revises the priority of distributions from the Administration of Justice Fund, requiring that available revenue be used first to fully fund the Court Reporter's Fund and funds for trial court staff persons authorized by § 16-10-133.
527	Ingram	Authorizes liquor manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to donate alcohol for charitable and nonprofit organizations' functions; removes the requirement for 19 to 21 year old employees to have parental permission to serve alcohol, more.
714	R. Thompson	Designates State Highway 90 from Pocahontas to Ravenden, and State Highway 93 from Pocahontas to Dalton as scenic highways.
746	Altes	Adds to the criminal offense of possession of a handgun on a college campus a requirement that the person knowingly has the possessed the weapon on campus.
759	Shepherd	Provides factors that an agency must consider before adoption of a rule, requires agencies to file financial impact statements under the AAPA with all rules and requires adoption of the least costly rule, with exceptions.
763	Lea	Requires the Attorney General to deposit all funds received from a monetary settlement or judgment in the Consumer Education and Enforcement Account, less attorney's fees and money that is due to the affected agency.
1073	Key	Makes various technical correction throughout public education law.
1082	Elliott	Establishes the Vision 2025 Legislative Commission on the Future of Higher Education; prescribes duties and the membership of the 23-member commission.
1095	Teague	Grants the duties of the Arkansas Acceleration Fund Committee to the Arkansas Research Alliance, and requires that panel to serve in an advisory capacity to the Governor, General Assembly and the Arkansas Science and Technology Authority; more. Effective 4/11/2013
1100	Broadaway	Makes various technical changes to Alcoholic Beverage Control Division permits for restaurants. Effective 4/11/2013
1168	Teague	Names the Director of the Department of Information Systems as the State Broadband Manager, charged with maintaining a state broadband plan and coordinating efforts to expand broadband capacity.
1255	Key	Establishes the Open-Enrollment Public Charter School Facilities Loan Fund to provide loans to eligible public charter schools for operations, improvements and construction.
1298	Blaine	Establishes the Arkansas Task Force for the Prevention Through Education of Child Sexual Abuse.
1338	Williams	Provides that the Capitol Zoning District Commission's regulations are enforceable in Little Rock District Court in the same manner as the enforcement of a violation of a municipal ordinance, except as provided under § 22-3-308.

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1466	Linck	Establishes application fees for operators of natural gas production fluid transportation system equipped for carrying a tank and for operators seeking permit to construct a pipeline system.
1498	Burriss	Prescribes the creation and administration of the "private option" for expansion of health care insurance to low income Arkansans.
1508	Hammer	Defines sibling for purposes of school law to include two or more children having a parent in common by blood, adoption, marriage, or foster care.
Approved	Burnett	To adopt the Joint Rules of the 89th General Assembly.

PROCUREMENT

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
308	Hendren, Westerman	Requires public agencies to make advanced technology available to sight-impaired persons that is available to other employees and members of the general public. Effective 3/11/2013
453	Pierce	Adds to the list of exempt commodities and services in the Arkansas Procurement Law commodities and raw materials purchased by state Correctional Industries for use in goods for resale and for Correction Department crop production.
1020	Malone	Requires development of regulations regarding the sale, lease, or disposal of surplus governmental commodities to nonprofit organizations; requires governmental entities to accept reasonable bids from nonprofits.
1189	Elliott	Revises provisions of procurement laws as they relate to minority vendors, increasing the maximum purchase price for definition of a small contract from \$5000 to \$10,000; increasing the minimum price for sealed bidding from \$25,000 to \$50,000.
1223	Broadaway	Amends ACA 4-57-101, setting a presumptive rate of interest at 6% per annum if a loan contract omits interest terms.

REMEDICATION

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
585	Carnine	Establishes the Council on Postsecondary Education and Career Readiness and requires high schools to assess students' college readiness before graduation and provide transitional courses for identified students.
1479	Clemmer, Elliott	Requires the departments of education and higher education to study the testing and remediation of entering freshmen and to report on the study by Nov. 1, 2013.

RETIREMENT: APERS & ATRS

ACT	SPONSOR	DESCRIPTION
44	Thompson	Requires the Legislative Council to approve a uniform legal form of a qualified domestic relations order for use by the state-supported retirement systems; allows the systems to disallow domestic relations orders that do not follow the form.
109	Thompson	Gives the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System authority to modify or eliminate retirement plan provisions no longer required to maintain the plan's tax-qualified status under the Internal Revenue Code.
140	Lenderman	Makes technical corrections to the Teacher Retirement System Act.

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174	Thompson	Authorizes the Teacher Retirement System to pay survivor benefits due to a minor to an adult member of the minor's family or a trust company unless the benefit exceeds \$500,000. Holds the system harmless for misuse of funds so paid. (Amended to \$20,000 per year to legal guardian)
223	Gossage	Expands the ability of current members of the Teacher Retirement System who previously served in a private school to purchase service credit in the system.
303	Thompson	Add to Arkansas Teacher Retirement System law a definition of "manifest injustice" for use in decisions regarding correction of errors.
304	Thompson	Exempts investment management contracts of state retirement systems from the mandatory expiration provisions of state purchasing law.
332	Key	Makes various changes to public retirement system eligibility, membership, contribution, and termination provisions.
336	Thompson	Allows a member of the Teacher Retirement System to elect to cancel service credit if the member owes the system a balance, in lieu of simply paying the balance due to the system.
337	Maloch, Carnine	Allows employees of the University of Arkansas System to participate in a retirement plan sponsored by the UA System or the Public Employees' Retirement System. Prohibits UA employees hired after 7/1/11 from the Teacher Retirement System.
448	Thompson	Authorizes the Teacher Retirement System to impose an additional penalty of \$500 for employer reports over one month delinquent; allows withholding of delinquent system contributions from the employer school district by the Department of Education.
449	Key	Allows school resource officers paid indirectly by school district to participate in the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, with restrictions.
452	Keyes	Requires enrollment in a deferred compensation plan to be part of newly hired state employees' contracts, rather than a separate decision and contract; requires minimum 1% contribution; and provides opt-out.
493	Lenderman	Provides that a member of the Teacher Retirement System deemed to be disabled is eligible for disability retirement effective from the date the written application for disability retirement is filed and the member is no longer employed.
521	Cheatham	Excludes unused leave and other miscellaneous payments and nonmonetary taxable income from the definition of salary for purposes of calculation of service credit and benefits for members of the Teacher Retirement System.
555	Thompson	Limits use by the Teacher Retirement System of service credit in a reciprocal retirement system for purposes of vesting, retirement eligibility and calculating final average salary.
571	Lenderman	Provides that an eligible survivor is entitled to receive survivor benefits from the Teacher Retirement System from the date the application for the benefits is filed.
602	Maloch	Authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Teacher Retirement System to increase the contribution by persons becoming members since July 1, 1971 from the current 6 percent, with a maximum of 8 percent of salary.
603	Hutchinson	Authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Teacher Retirement System to modify the amount of monthly benefit stipends (now \$50 per month) from a maximum of \$75 per month to not less than \$1.00 per month.
605	Cheatham	Eliminates the additional reduction of 0.6% times the number of years of noncontributory service credit for the calculation of benefits of members under the Deferred Retirement Option Plan of the Teacher Retirement System.
606	Cheatham	Authorizes the Board of Trustees of the Teacher Retirement Plan to establish a buyout plan for inactive members of system entailing a one-time lump sum payments to the member.
607	Key	Allows certain benefits-eligible employees of a post-secondary institution of higher education to elect to become members of the Teacher Retirement System.
720	Lenderman	Provides persons retiring from the Teacher Retirement System on other than the specified dates may receive service credit for the current fiscal year but salary for that year is excluded from calculation of final average salary.

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966	Catlett	Allows the board of the Teacher Retirement System to adjust the multiplier for contributory service earned after June 30, 2013 and set a special contributory multiplier rate for the first ten years of service credit.
967	Deffenbaugh	Authorizes the board of the Teacher Retirement System to reverse any compounding of the cost of living adjustment for retirants, in which case the cost of living adjustment shall be paid on the simple COLA for that year.
996	Catlett	Allows the board of the Teacher Retirement System to adjust the multiplier for contributory service earned after June 30, 2013 and set a special contributory multiplier rate for the first ten years of service credit.
1399	Cheatham	Sets maximum employer contribution rate charged by the Teacher Retirement System at 15% and to exceed 14% only if unfunded liability amortization period exceeds 30 years.
1446	Kizzia	Authorizes the Teacher Retirement System to establish a Tier II benefit program for member hired after July 1, 2015; specifies provisions of the Tier II plan.
1448	Nickels, Elliott	Establishes certified arbitrators to hear state employee grievance procedure appeals; establishes appeals procedure and prescribes options for relief, including award of lost earnings, leave and service credit in a public retirement system.