

1 State of Arkansas  
2 89th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2013  
4

*As Engrossed: H4/1/13*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1714

5 By: Representative Word  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND THE VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL ACT  
9 ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
10

### Subtitle

11 TO AMEND THE VOLUNTARY UNIVERSAL ACT  
12 ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ACT.  
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16  
17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1601 is amended to read as follows:  
20 6-18-1601. Title.

21 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "~~Voluntary~~  
22 Universal ACT Assessment Program Act".  
23

24 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1602, concerning the definition of  
25 "Smart Core", is amended to read as follows:

26 (2) "Smart Core" means ~~the required curriculum that is part of~~  
27 ~~Smart Future, a state initiative focused on improving Arkansas public schools~~  
28 ~~for all students so they are prepared for life beyond graduation;~~

29 (A) The college and career readiness curriculum by that  
30 name under the rules of the State Board of Education; or

31 (B) A college and career readiness curriculum that is:  
32 (i) Established by rules of the state board in  
33 coordination with the Department of Higher Education; and

34 (ii) Substituted for the curriculum named "Smart  
35 Core".  
36



1 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1603 is amended to read as follows:  
2 6-18-1603. Creation.

3 There is created in the Department of Education the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal  
4 ACT Assessment Program to be developed, implemented, and administered by the  
5 department as provided in this subchapter.

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7 SECTION 4. The introductory language of Arkansas Code § 6-18-1604 is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 The purpose of the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program is to:

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11 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1606 is amended to read as follows:  
12 6-18-1606. Implementation.

13 *Beginning with the ~~2008-2009~~ 2014-2015 school year, the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal*  
14 *ACT Assessment Program may provide each student in ~~grade~~ grades nine (9), ten*  
15 *(10), or eleven (11) with the opportunity to take the ACT Assessment while in*  
16 *~~grade~~ grades nine (9), ten (10), or eleven (11) without any charge by using*  
17 *school district funding, including National School Lunch Act funds, to pay*  
18 *for the exams as approved by the Department of Education.*

19  
20 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1402(b)(3)(B)(iv), concerning school  
21 performance reports, is amended to read as follows:

22 (iv) *The school district provides college*  
23 *preparation and remediation for students who have taken the ACT before their*  
24 *senior year of high school under the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment*  
25 *Program Act, § 6-18-1601 et seq.*

26  
27 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-18-1608 is amended to read as follows:  
28 6-18-1608. Reporting.

29 *The Department of Higher Education and the Department of Education*  
30 *shall submit a combined annual report to the Legislative Council by December*  
31 *1 of each year that establishes compliance with this subchapter, provides*  
32 *data on the number of participants in the ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment*  
33 *Program, and outlines the impact of this program on the college readiness of*  
34 *high school seniors and the remediation rates at institutions of higher*  
35 *education.*

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*SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 6-60-703(b)(1)(C), concerning the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report Act, is amended to read as follows:*

*(C) The ~~Voluntary~~ Universal ACT Assessment Program, § 6-18-1608;*

*SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This act is effective on July 1, 2014.*

*/s/Word*