

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1461

5 By: Representative Wing  
6 By: Senator Hester  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS  
10 ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUCCEED SCHOLARSHIP  
11 PROGRAM; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER  
12 PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

15 TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS  
16 ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUCCEED  
17 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND TO DECLARE AN  
18 EMERGENCY.  
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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 § 6-41-803(b)(1), concerning private school  
25 eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship Program, is amended to read as  
26 follows:

27 (b) The department shall approve a private school as eligible to  
28 participate in the program if the private school:

29 (1) Either:

30 (A) Meets the accreditation requirements set by the State  
31 Board of Education, the Arkansas Nonpublic School Accrediting Association or  
32 its successor, or another accrediting association recognized by the State  
33 Board of Education as providing services to severely disabled individuals; or

34 (B)(i) Is an associate member of or has applied for  
35 accreditation by the Arkansas Nonpublic School Accrediting Association or its  
36 successor, or another accrediting association recognized by the State Board



1 of Education as providing services to severely disabled individuals.

2 (ii) A private school shall no longer be eligible  
 3 if:

4 (a) The private school has not received  
 5 accreditation within four (4) years of becoming eligible under subdivision  
 6 (b)(1)(B)(i) of this section;

7 (b) The accrediting association determines  
 8 that the private school is ineligible or unable to continue the accreditation  
 9 process; or

10 (c) It becomes impossible for the private  
 11 school to obtain accreditation within four (4) years.

12 (iii) A private school that becomes ineligible under  
 13 subdivision (b)(1)(B)(ii) of this section shall regain eligibility when the  
 14 private school receives accreditation;

15  
 16 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
 17 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that there is a demand for more  
 18 private schools to participate in the Succeed Scholarship Program; that  
 19 allowing private schools who have applied for accreditation to be eligible to  
 20 participate in the program will help meet that demand; and that this act is  
 21 immediately necessary to ensure that these newly eligible private schools can  
 22 serve students who have received Succeed Scholarships in the 2017-2018 school  
 23 year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being  
 24 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and  
 25 safety shall become effective on:

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

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

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

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 34 APPROVED: 03/02/2017