

State of ArkansasAs *Engrossed: S1/27/25 S2/5/25 S2/10/25 H4/7/25 H4/9/25*

95th General Assembly

## A Bill

Regular Session, 2025

SENATE BILL 90

By: Senator J. English

By: Representative Brooks

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING MEETING REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL  
DISTRICT BOARDS OF DIRECTORS; TO REQUIRE MEMBERS OF  
THE PUBLIC TO BE AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT  
PUBLIC COMMENT AT EACH MEETING OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO REQUIRE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE  
AFFORDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT  
PUBLIC COMMENT AT EACH MEETING OF A  
SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-13-619, concerning meetings requirements  
for school district boards of directors, is amended to add an additional  
subsection to read as follows:

(f)(1)(A) Prior to the consideration of any business or an executive  
session at a meeting of a board of directors, any member of the public shall  
be afforded the opportunity to give public comment on any matter that is  
within the powers and duties of the board of directors as provided under § 6-  
13-620 if the member of the public providing the public comment:

(i) Resides within the public school district;

(ii) Is a parent, legal guardian, or person standing  
in loco parentis to a student enrolled in the public school district; or

(iii) Is employed by the public school district.

(i) Resides within the public school district;



1 (ii) Is a parent, legal guardian, or person standing  
2 in loco parentis to a student enrolled in the public school district; or

3 (iii) Is employed by the public school district.

4 (B) However, a member of the public shall not provide  
5 public comment that prejudices the board of directors concerning a student or  
6 personnel matter that is on the agenda for the board of director's  
7 consideration of a disciplinary or employment action.

8 (2)(A) A board of directors shall not require prior approval for  
9 a member of the public to give public comment under subdivision (f)(1) of  
10 board of directors.

11 (3) A board of directors shall allow each member of the public  
12 who presents public comment under subdivision (f)(1)(A) of this section at  
13 least three (3) minutes to deliver his or her public comment.

14 (4) If the public comment period at the beginning of a board of  
15 directors meeting exceeds thirty (30) minutes, the board of directors may  
16 move public comment on matters within the powers and duties of the board of  
17 directors as provided under § 6-13-620 that are not on the board of directors  
18 meeting agenda for action to a time later in the board of directors meeting.

19 (B) However, a board of directors may utilize a sign-up  
20 sheet for members of the public providing public comment so long as the sign-  
21 up sheet is accessible to the public until the start of the meeting of the  
22 board of directors.

23 (3) A board of directors shall allow each member of the public  
24 who presents public comment under subdivision (f)(1)(A) of this section at  
25 least three (3) minutes to deliver his or her public comment.

26 (4) If the public comment period at the beginning of a board of  
27 directors meeting exceeds thirty (30) minutes, the board of directors may  
28 move public comment on matters within the powers and duties of the board of  
29 directors as provided under § 6-13-620 that are not on the board of directors  
30 meeting agenda for action to a time later in the board of directors meeting.

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32 /s/J. English

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35 APPROVED: 4/21/25