

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas *As Enrolled: H1/12/01 H3/14/01 H3/16/01 S4/5/01*

2 83rd General Assembly

A Bill

Act 1664 of 2001

3 Regular Session, 2001

HOUSE BILL 1002

4

5 By: Representatives Duggar, Borhauer, Adams, Agee, Allison, Altes, Bennett, Bevis, Biggs, Bledsoe,
6 Bolin, Bond, Boyd, Bradford, Bright, Broadway, Childers, Clemons, Cleveland, Cowling, Creekmore,
7 Dangeau, Dees, Eason, J. Elliott, Files, Fite, French, Gillespie, Gipson, Glover, Goss, Green, Haak,
8 Hathorn, Hausam, Hendren, Hickinbotham, Holt, House, Hutchinson, Jacobs, G. Jeffress, C. Johnson,
9 Jones, Judy, King, Lendall, Lewellen, Lowery, Mack, Mathis, McMellon, Milligan, Milum, Minton,
10 Moore, Napper, Nichols, Oglesby, Ormond, Parks, Prater, Pritchard, Rackley, Rankin, Roebuck,
11 Salmon, Scrimshire, Scroggin, Seawel, Shoffner, M. Smith, M. Steele, T. Steele, Stovall, C. Taylor, J.
12 Taylor, Thomas, Verkamp, W. Walker, Weaver, White, Willis, Womack, Wood

13 By: Senators J. Jeffress, Miller, Whitaker, B. Johnson, Hunter, Wilkins

14

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO INCLUDE NURSING SCHOOLS AS APPROVED

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INSTITUTIONS IN THE ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

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SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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Subtitle

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AN ACT TO INCLUDE NURSING SCHOOLS AS

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APPROVED INSTITUTIONS IN THE ACADEMIC

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CHALLENGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

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

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SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 6-82-1002 is amended to read as follows:

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6-82-1002. Definitions.

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For purposes of this subchapter, the following terms shall be defined as indicated:

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(1) *"Approved institution" means a public or private college, ~~or~~*

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university, or nursing school located in Arkansas that is approved by the

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State Board of Nursing and only under the conditions set forth in § 6-82-1007,

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or accredited by the North Central Association, Commission on Institutions of

1 Higher Education, or which certifies to the Department of Higher Education
2 that its students are accepted for transfer at institutions accredited by the
3 North Central Association, Commission on Institutions of Higher Education.
4 Further, such institution shall not discriminate against applicants, students,
5 or employees on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or
6 national origin, consistent with the provisions of applicable state and
7 federal law;

8 (2) "Full-time undergraduate student" means a resident of Arkansas who
9 attends an approved institution of higher education and is enrolled for at
10 least twelve (12) credit hours per semester or the equivalent, as defined by
11 the Department of Higher Education, in a program of study which leads to or is
12 creditable toward a baccalaureate degree, an associate degree in nursing, or a
13 nursing school diploma;

14 (3) "Eligible student" means any student who meets the criteria set out
15 by this subchapter and is deemed to be eligible by rules and regulations
16 authorized by this subchapter and promulgated by the Department of Higher
17 Education;

18 (4) "Financial need" means the family income of program applicants as
19 determined by the Department of Higher Education through evaluation of program
20 applications and supporting documentation;

21 (5) "Tuition" means charges levied for attendance at an eligible
22 institution of higher education. For purposes of this subchapter, tuition
23 charges shall not include any fees charged or used for student activities,
24 including any student athletic fee; and

25 (6) "Unemancipated child" or "unemancipated children" means a dependent
26 child or dependent children as defined by the United States Department of
27 Education for student aid purposes.

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29 *SECTION 2. 6-82-1007. Nursing school eligibility.*

30 *(a)(1) The General Assembly recognizes that the State of Arkansas is*
31 *experiencing a critical shortage of nurses; and*

32 *(2) It is the intent of this section to allow the Department of*
33 *Higher Education the opportunity to include associate degree granting and*
34 *diploma schools of nursing in the academic challenge scholarship under*
35 *specific circumstances.*

36 *(b) The Department of Higher Education shall make awards to applicants*

1 attending either an associate degree or diploma school preparing registered
2 nurses that is approved by the State Board of Nursing, and would not otherwise
3 be an approved institution of higher education, if:

4 (1) The applicant has qualified for an Academic Challenge
5 Scholarship and is simultaneously enrolled in an approved two-year or four-
6 year college or university prior to or at the time of entry in the nursing
7 school and the applicant then transfers the scholarship to an approved school
8 of nursing after completing the two-year requirements as set forth by the
9 department's rules and regulations;

10 (2) The nursing school has been approved by the Arkansas State
11 Board of Nursing and is specifically recognized by the Department of Higher
12 Education as a school of nursing eligible to participate in the Academic
13 Challenge Scholarship Program; and

14 (3) The recipient meets continuing eligibility requirements in
15 Arkansas Code 6-82-1006.

16 (c) The scholarships awarded to recipients under this section shall be
17 subject to § 6-18-1004(g).

18 (d) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Department
19 of Higher Education shall promulgate regulations necessary for the
20 implementation of this section.

21 /s/ Duggar

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24 APPROVED: 4/16/2001