

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2003
4

Call Item 4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 41

5 By: Senators Womack, Bryles
6 By: Representative Key
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For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO
11 OFFER A PERSONAL FINANCE COURSE TO STUDENTS IN
12 GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE (9-12); AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PUBLIC SCHOOL
16 DISTRICTS TO OFFER A PERSONAL FINANCE
17 COURSE TO STUDENTS IN GRADES NINE
18 THROUGH TWELVE (9-12).
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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 Title 6, Chapter 16, Subchapter 135 is
25 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 6-16-135. Personal Finance – Required course.

27 (a)(1) The State Board of Education shall amend the Standards for
28 Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools to require:

29 (i) Every public school teaching students in grades
30 nine through twelve (9-12) to offer a course in personal finance as part of
31 the curriculum each school year; and

32 (ii) Completion of one-half (1/2) unit of personnel
33 finance prior to graduation.

34 (2) The changes under this section shall be effective beginning
35 with the 2004-2005 school year and continue each school year thereafter.

36 (b)(1)(A) By May 1, 2004, the Department of Education, subject to the



1 approval of the state board, shall develop personal finance course content
2 guidelines and recommend textbooks to be used in a personal finance course.

3 (B) The course content shall include, but not be limited
4 to, creating household budgets, maintaining checking accounts, basic consumer
5 finance, debt management, credit management, insurance, and taxes.

6 (2) Textbook recommendations shall be provided to each school
7 district and the House Interim Committee on Education and the Senate Interim
8 Committee on Education no later than May 30, 2004.

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