

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1139

5 By: Representative B. McKenzie
6 By: Senator J. Bryant
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE RELEASED TIME EDUCATION ACT; AND
10 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

13 TO CREATE THE RELEASED TIME EDUCATION
14 ACT.
15
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 2, is amended
20 to add an additional section to read as follows:

21 6-18-237. Released Time Education Act.

22 (a) This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Released Time
23 Education Act".

24 (b) As used in this section:

25 (1) "Released time course" means a course in religious moral
26 instruction that is taught by an independent entity for which a student is
27 excused from school to attend; and

28 (2) "School" means:

29 (A) A public school district; or

30 (B) An open-enrollment public charter school.

31 (c)(1) A school, upon request of the parent, legal guardian, or person
32 standing in loco parentis to an enrolled student, shall excuse the student
33 from school to attend a released time course.

34 (2) A student under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall be
35 excused from school to attend the released time course for at least one (1)
36 hour each week but not more than five (5) hours each week.

