State of Arkansas
88th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2011

By: Representative J. Roebuck
By: Senator G. Baker

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE COMPREHENSIVE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT; TO CLARIFY WHAT INFORMATION SPECIFIC HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED REPORTS SHOULD CONTAIN; TO REQUIRE SOME HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED REPORTS TO BE UPDATED ANNUALLY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CLARIFY WHAT INFORMATION SPECIFIC HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED REPORTS SHOULD CONTAIN; TO REQUIRE SOME HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED REPORTS TO BE UPDATED ANNUALLY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §§ 6-60-703 and 6-60-704 are amended to read as follows:

6-60-703. Report.
(a)(1) The Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report shall be submitted by the Department of Higher Education to the House Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Education, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor no later than December 1, 2009, January 1, 2012, and each year thereafter.

(2) The Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report shall be posted on the department website for public inspection no later than December 8, 2009, January 1, 2012, and each year thereafter.
(b)(1) The Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report shall consist of all higher education reports currently required by the General Assembly, including without limitation reports pertaining to the following reports:

(1) Annually:
(A) Scholarship programs, including without limitation the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship Program and the report required by Acts 2001, No. 1520;
(B) Remediation rates, §§ 6-15-2401 and 6-61-221, updated each even-numbered year;
(C) The Voluntary Universal ACT Assessment Program, § 6-18-1608;
(D) Military students and families, § 6-61-112;
(E) Budgets, § 6-61-209, updated each even-numbered year;
(F) Retention plans, retention Retention rates, and graduation rates, including minority retention, §§ 6-61-1311, 6-61-220, and 6-61-122;
(G) Reporting standards, § 6-61-222, updated each even-numbered year;
(H) Athletic expenditures, § 6-62-106;
(I) Faculty performance review, § 6-63-104;
(J) Coordination of state educational efforts, § 6-1-304;
(K) Student enrollment, § 6-60-209;
(L) Economic development goals and educational efforts, § 6-61-207; and
(M) Affirmative action programs summaries, § 6-63-103-

(2) Biennially, each even-numbered year:
(A) Changes to Productivity Enhancement for Undergraduate Higher Education Program plans, § 6-61-1311;
(B) Uniform reporting standards, § 6-61-222;
(C) Changes to affirmative action program plans, § 6-63-103; and
(D) Economic development goals and educational efforts, § 6-61-207; and

(3) Every five (5) years, beginning in 2015:
(A) Minority retention plans, § 6-61-122; and
(B) Affirmative action program plans, § 6-63-103(c).

(c)(1) All deadlines for higher education reports currently required by the General Assembly are superseded by subsection (a)(b) of this section unless otherwise specified in this subchapter.

(3)(2) All financial reports provided to the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall be included in the report, including the Higher Education Financial Conditions Report.

(e)(d) All future higher education reports statutorily required by the General Assembly shall:

(1) Be submitted as part of the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report; and

(2) Include a fiscal impact on administrative costs to the department.

6-60-704. Information submitted to the Department of Higher Education for inclusion in the report.

(a) All higher education reports submitted to the General Assembly or other governmental bodies by individual colleges and universities, agencies, boards, or commissions shall be submitted directly to the Department of Higher Education no later than October 1, 2009 November 1, 2011, and each year thereafter for inclusion in the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report.

(b) If an institution of higher education fails to submit the required reports to the department by October 15 November 15, the institutions shall appear before the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education to explain why they failed to meet the submission deadline.

(c) Financial information provided by an institution of higher education is subject to review by the Division of Legislative Audit, and any adjustments made to previously submitted financial information during the course of a financial audit may be revised based upon recommendations made by the division.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-61-221(d), concerning reports on remediation, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall provide the reports include the reports developed under this section annually in the
Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report and provide an electronic copy to the:

(A) Department of Education; the
(B) Department of Career Education; the
(C) Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board; the
(D) Governor; the
(E) House Committee on Education; the
(F) Senate Committee on Education; and the
(G) State Board of Education; and
(H) School district administrators for each public high school.

(2) The reports developed under this section shall be prepared on or before October 1 each year and include the cost of remediation for each state-supported institution of higher education, which shall be submitted to the Department of Higher Education according to standards developed by the Department of Higher Education and shall include for each state-supported institution of higher education:

(A) The amount of institutional revenue spent on remediation;
(B) The total general revenue subsidy spent on remediation;
(C) The total institutional expenditure for remediation;
and
(D) The general revenue percentage of total expenditures for remediation.

(3) The report required under this subsection shall be separate from the uniform reporting standards report required under § 6-61-221.

(A) Provided to each public high school and to school district administrators by the Department of Education; and
(B) Included in the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher Education Annual Report.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-61-222, concerning uniform reporting standards, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(d) The report required under this section shall be separate from the cost-of-remediation reports required under § 6-61-221.
SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-63-103 is amended to read as follows:

6-63-103. Affirmative action programs — Plans — Annual reports.

(a)(1) All Each state-supported college and university institutions of higher education shall prepare an affirmative action program for the recruitment of blacks African-Americans and other members of minorities for faculty and staff positions and for enrollment as students.

(2) Affirmative action plans shall be prepared on a continuing basis for future five-year periods.

(b)(1) Each state-supported college and university institutions of higher education shall annually prepare annually a summary report on the steps that have been taken to reach the goals of the plan.

(2) The report shall include:

(A) Include information on the progress made by the institutions each institution for the various levels of employment within the institution; and

(B) Be presented in a table format limited to no more than five (5) pages.

(c) Copies of each institution's the five-year plan and annual reports summaries of each institution of higher education shall be included in the Comprehensive Higher Education Annual Report, filed with the Governor, the Department of Higher Education, the president and board of trustees of the institution, the board of visitors of the institution, if applicable, and the interim House interim Committee on Education and the interim Senate interim Committee on Education.

(d) In carrying out the affirmative action plans, each institution of higher education shall provide for a part-time or full-time employee to assist the institution in the recruitment of blacks African-Americans and other members of minorities for faculty and staff positions and for enrollment as students.

APPROVED: 03/24/2011