For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO LIMIT PUBLIC COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY EXPENDITURES FOR ACADEMIC, MERIT, AND PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIPS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO LIMIT PUBLIC COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY EXPENDITURES FOR ACADEMIC, MERIT, AND PERFORMANCE SCHOLARSHIPS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 80, Subchapter 1 is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-80-106. Definitions and limitations on expenditures for academic and performance scholarships.

(a) For the purpose of this section:

(1) "Academic scholarships" means:

(A) Scholarships awarded on a basis of criteria including entrance exam scores, high school grade point averages, rank in high school graduating class, or a scholarship awarded for merit or academic performance.

(B) "Academic scholarships" does not include:

(i) Graduate assistantships or fellowships;

(ii) Tuition waivers based on age, military service, or occupation and out-of-state tuition waivers for graduate students or students from contiguous states in close proximity to a college or
university; and

(iii) Scholarships for transfers from two-year institutions; and

(2) "Performance scholarships" means scholarships for band, musical performing groups, arts, theater, forensics, and similar activities that are not awarded on the basis of entrance exam scores or high school academic achievement.

(b) Beginning with the 2006-2007 fiscal year, each public college and public university shall not exceed its educational and general spending for academic and performance scholarships by more than thirty percent (30%) of its unrestricted educational and general tuition and fee income.

/s/ J. Bookout

APPROVED: 4/06/2005