

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-first Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2013

**CHAPTER 10**  
**HOUSE BILL 2427**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 15-448, 15-459 AND 42-17257, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES;  
RELATING TO SCHOOL DISTRICT UNIFICATION AND CONSOLIDATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-448, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:

4 15-448. Formation of unified school district; board membership;  
5 budget

6 A. One or more common school districts and a high school district with  
7 coterminous or overlapping boundaries may establish a unified school district  
8 pursuant to this section. Unification of a common school district and a high  
9 school district is not authorized by this section if any of the high school  
10 facilities owned by the new unified school district would not be located  
11 within its boundaries.

12 B. Formation of a unified school district shall be by resolutions  
13 approved by the governing boards of the unifying school districts and  
14 certification of approval by such governing boards to the county school  
15 superintendent of the county or counties in which such individual school  
16 districts are located. A common school district and high school district  
17 that unify pursuant to this section shall not exclude from the same  
18 unification a common school district that has overlapping boundaries with the  
19 high school district and that wishes to unify. **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN**  
20 **SUBSECTION D OF THIS SECTION**, the formation of a unified school district  
21 shall become effective on July 1 of the next fiscal year following the  
22 certification of the county school superintendent. An election shall not be  
23 required to form a unified school district pursuant to this section. At  
24 least ninety days before the governing boards vote on the resolutions  
25 prescribed in this subsection, the governing boards shall mail a pamphlet to  
26 each household with one or more qualified electors that shall list the full  
27 cash value, the assessed valuation and the estimated amount of the primary  
28 property taxes and the estimated amount of the secondary property taxes under  
29 the proposed unification for each of the following:

30 1. An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the average  
31 assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as prescribed by  
32 section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.

33 2. An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half of  
34 the assessed valuation of the residence in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

35 3. An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the  
36 assessed valuation of the residence in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

37 4. A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed  
38 valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section  
39 42-12001, paragraphs 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.

40 C. The boundaries of the unified school district shall be the  
41 boundaries of the former common school district or districts that unify. The  
42 boundaries of the common school district or districts that are not unifying  
43 remain unchanged. The county school superintendent, immediately ~~upon~~ **ON**  
44 receipt of the approved resolutions prescribed by subsection B of this  
45 section, shall file with the board of supervisors, the county assessor and  
46 the superintendent of public instruction a transcript of the boundaries of

1 the unified school district. The boundaries shown in the transcript shall  
2 become the legal boundaries of the school districts on July 1 of the next  
3 fiscal year.

4 D. On formation of the unified school district, the governing board  
5 consists of the members of the former school district governing boards and  
6 the members shall hold office until January 1 following the first general  
7 election after formation of the district. FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALL ACTIONS  
8 THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR THE OPERATION OF THE UNIFIED DISTRICT FOR THE NEXT  
9 YEAR, THE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD IS CONSTITUTED AND MAY  
10 CONDUCT MEETINGS AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE UNIFICATION RESOLUTIONS PRESCRIBED  
11 BY SUBSECTION B OF THIS SECTION.

12 E. Beginning on January 1 following the first general election after  
13 formation of the unified school district, the governing board shall have five  
14 members. At the first general election after the formation of the district,  
15 members shall be elected in the following manner:

16 1. The three candidates receiving the highest, the second highest and  
17 the third highest number of votes shall be elected to four year terms.

18 2. The two candidates receiving the fourth and fifth highest number of  
19 votes shall be elected to two year terms. Thereafter all offices shall have  
20 four year terms.

21 F. The new unified school district may appoint a resident of the  
22 remaining common school district to serve as a nonvoting member of the  
23 governing board to represent the interests of the high school pupils who  
24 reside in the remaining common school district and who attend school in the  
25 unified school district.

26 G. For the first year of operation, the unified school district  
27 governing board shall prepare a consolidated budget based on the student  
28 counts from the school districts comprising the unified school district,  
29 except that for purposes of determining budget amounts and equalization  
30 assistance, the student count for the former high school district shall not  
31 include the prior year average daily membership attributable to high school  
32 pupils from a common school district that was part of the former high school  
33 district but is not part of the unified school district. The unified school  
34 district shall charge the remaining common school district tuition for these  
35 pupils as provided in subsection J of this section. The unified school  
36 district may budget for unification assistance pursuant to section 15-912.01.

37 H. The governing board of the unified school district shall prepare  
38 policies, curricula and budgets for the district. These policies shall  
39 require that:

40 1. The base compensation of each certificated teacher for the first  
41 year of operation of the new unified school district shall not be lower than  
42 the certificated teacher's base compensation for the prior year in the  
43 previously existing school districts.

44 2. The certificated teacher's years of employment in the previously  
45 existing school districts shall be included in determining the teacher's  
46 certificated years of employment in the new unified school district.

1 I. ~~Upon~~ ON formation of a unified school district, any existing  
2 override authorization of the former high school district and the former  
3 common school district or districts shall continue until expiration based on  
4 the revenue control limit of the school district or districts that had  
5 override authorization prior to unification. The unified school district may  
6 request new override authorization for the budget year as provided in section  
7 15-481 based on the combined revenue control limit of the new district after  
8 unification. If the unified school district's request for override  
9 authorization is approved, it will replace any existing override for the  
10 budget year.

11 J. The unified school district shall admit high school pupils who  
12 reside in a common school district that was located within the boundaries of  
13 the former high school district. Tuition shall be paid to the unified school  
14 district by the common school district in which such pupils reside. Such  
15 tuition amount shall be calculated in accordance with section 15-824, subject  
16 to the following modifications:

17 1. If the former high school district had outstanding bonded  
18 indebtedness at the time of unification, the combined tuition for the group  
19 of high school pupils who reside in each common school district shall include  
20 a debt service amount for the former high school district's outstanding  
21 bonded indebtedness that is determined as follows:

22 (a) Divide the total secondary assessed valuation of the common school  
23 district in which the group of pupils resides by the total secondary assessed  
24 valuation of the former high school district. For the purposes of this  
25 subdivision, "secondary assessed valuation" means secondary assessed  
26 valuation for the tax year prior to the year when the ~~unification occurs~~  
27 UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD IS CONSTITUTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
28 D OF THIS SECTION and includes the values used to determine voluntary  
29 contributions collected pursuant to title 9, chapter 4, article 3 and title  
30 48, chapter 1, article 8.

31 (b) Multiply the quotient obtained in subdivision (a) OF THIS PARAGRAPH  
32 by the unified school district's annual debt service expenditure.

33 2. The debt service portion of such tuition payments calculated  
34 pursuant to paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be used exclusively for debt  
35 service of the outstanding bonded indebtedness of the former high school  
36 district. When such indebtedness is fully extinguished, the debt service  
37 portion of a pupil's tuition shall be determined in accordance with paragraph  
38 3 of this subsection.

39 3. If the former high school district had no outstanding bonded  
40 indebtedness at the time of unification, the tuition calculation shall  
41 include the actual school district expenditures for the portion of any debt  
42 service of the unified school district that pertains to any construction or  
43 renovation of high school facilities divided by the school district's student  
44 count for the high school portion of the school district.

1           4. The unified school district shall not include in the tuition  
2 calculation any debt service that pertains to any construction or renovation  
3 of school facilities for preschool through grade eight.

4           5. Notwithstanding section 15-951, subsection G, the revenue control  
5 limit of the common school district shall include the full amount of the debt  
6 service portion of the tuition calculated pursuant to this subsection.

7           K. All assets and liabilities of the unifying school districts shall  
8 be transferred and assumed by the new unified school district. Any existing  
9 bonded indebtedness of a common school district or a high school district  
10 unifying pursuant to this section shall be assumed by the new unified school  
11 district and shall be regarded as an indebtedness of the new unified school  
12 district for the purpose of determining the debt incurring authority of the  
13 district. Taxes for the payment of such bonded indebtedness shall be levied  
14 on all taxable property in the new unified school district, but nothing in  
15 this subsection shall be construed to relieve from liability to taxation for  
16 the payment of all taxable property of the former high school district if  
17 necessary to prevent a default in the payment of any bonded indebtedness of  
18 the former high school district. The residents of a common school district  
19 that does not unify shall not vote in bond or override elections of the  
20 unified school district and shall not be assessed taxes as a result of a bond  
21 or override election of the unified school district.

22           L. If the remaining common school district had authorization for an  
23 override as provided in section 15-481 or 15-482, the override authorization  
24 continues for the remaining common school district or districts in the same  
25 manner as before the formation of the unified school district.

26           M. The bonding authorization and bonding limitations continue for the  
27 remaining common school district or districts in the same manner as before  
28 the formation of the unified school district.

29           N. Nothing in this section shall be construed to relieve a school  
30 district formed pursuant to section 15-457 or 15-458 of its liability for any  
31 outstanding bonded indebtedness.

32           O. For school districts that become unified after July 1, 2004 and  
33 where all of the common schools were eligible for the small school district  
34 weight pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 1, subdivision (a) when  
35 computing their base support level and base revenue control limit before  
36 unification, the unified school district may continue to use the small school  
37 district weight as follows:

38           1. Annually determine the common school student count and the weighted  
39 student count pursuant to section 15-943, paragraph 1, subdivision (a) for  
40 each common school district before unification.

41           2. Calculate the sum of the common school districts' student counts  
42 and weighted student counts determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection.

43           3. Divide the sum of the weighted student counts by the sum of the  
44 student counts determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection.

45           4. The amount determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection shall be  
46 the weight for the common schools in the unified school district.

1 P. A unified school district may calculate its revenue control limit  
2 and district support level by using subsection 0 of this section as follows:

3 1. Determine the number of individual school districts that existed  
4 before unification into a single school district.

5 2. Multiply the amount determined in paragraph 1 of this subsection by  
6 six hundred.

7 3. Multiply the amount determined in paragraph 2 of this subsection by  
8 0.80.

9 4. If the amount determined in paragraph 3 of this subsection exceeds  
10 the student count of the unified school district, the unified school district  
11 is eligible to use subsection 0 of this section.

12 Q. Subsections 0 and P of this section shall remain in effect until  
13 the aggregate student count of the common school districts before unification  
14 exceeds the aggregate number of students of the common school districts  
15 before unification authorized to utilize section 15-943, paragraph 1,  
16 subdivision (a).

17 Sec. 2. Section 15-459, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

18 15-459. Consolidation of districts; petition; election; notice;  
19 report; ballots; canvass of votes; governing board

20 A. On the request of the governing boards of two or more school  
21 districts in the same county or in adjacent counties or on receipt of  
22 petitions bearing the signatures of ten per cent or more of the number of  
23 qualified electors who voted in whichever of the last two general elections  
24 resulted in the higher number of ballots cast and who reside in each of two  
25 or more school districts in the same county or in adjacent counties to  
26 consolidate the school districts or parts of the districts, the county school  
27 superintendent of each of the counties affected, within ten days, shall call  
28 an election to determine the question on consolidation.

29 B. Consolidations allowed pursuant to subsection A of this section  
30 include:

31 1. To change the boundaries of a school district to include any part  
32 of an adjacent school district.

33 2. If all the common school districts within the boundaries of an  
34 existing union high school district desire to consolidate into one common  
35 school district.

36 3. If two or more adjacent school districts of like character, either  
37 common, high or unified school districts, desire to consolidate into one  
38 common, high or unified school district.

39 4. If a common school district that is not a part of a union high  
40 school district desires to consolidate with an adjacent unified school  
41 district.

42 5. If two or more common school districts desire to consolidate into  
43 one school district and unify the consolidated district with a union high  
44 school district to form one unified school district.

45 C. Notice of the election to determine consolidation of school  
46 districts shall be posted in not less than three public places in each of the

1 school districts proposed to be consolidated at least twenty-five days before  
2 the election.

3 D. The county school superintendent shall prepare and the governing  
4 board shall distribute a report on the proposed boundary changes in a manner  
5 similar to that prescribed in section 15-481, subsection B. The report shall  
6 contain the following information:

- 7 1. The date of the election.
- 8 2. The polling places and times they are open.
- 9 3. The full cash value, the assessed valuation and the estimated  
10 amount of the primary property taxes and the estimated amount of the  
11 secondary property taxes under the proposed boundary changes for each of the  
12 following:

13 (a) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is the  
14 average assessed valuation of property classified as class three, as  
15 prescribed by section 42-12003 for the current year in the school district.

16 (b) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is one-half  
17 of the assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this  
18 paragraph.

19 (c) An owner occupied residence whose assessed valuation is twice the  
20 assessed valuation of the residence in subdivision (a) of this paragraph.

21 (d) A business whose assessed valuation is the average of the assessed  
22 valuation of property classified as class one, as prescribed by section  
23 42-12001, paragraphs 12 and 13 for the current year in the school district.

24 4. A consolidation plan to include:

25 (a) The proposed boundary changes.

26 (b) The impact of the proposed boundary changes, including where  
27 pupils will attend school, changes in pupil transportation services, changes  
28 in availability of special education services, changes in pupil-teacher ratio  
29 and operational costs.

30 (c) If subsection P of this section applies to one or more of the  
31 existing school districts, a detailed description of desegregation funding  
32 and expenses for the resulting school district as set forth in subsection P  
33 of this section.

34 (d) Any other information the county school superintendent deems  
35 appropriate to include.

36 E. Ballots shall be prepared by the county school superintendent,  
37 shall be delivered to the inspector at least forty-eight hours before the  
38 opening of the polls as prescribed in section 16-509 and shall contain the  
39 information prescribed in subsection D, paragraph 3 of this section and the  
40 following statement: "Consolidation includes the assumption of liability by  
41 the resulting school district for all indebtedness of existing school  
42 districts or those parts of school districts proposed for consolidation. Do  
43 you support consolidation under the specified provisions of the consolidation  
44 plan? Yes ( ) No ( )." If the election is to simultaneously consolidate  
45 and unify two or more common school districts, the ballot shall contain: "Do  
46 you support the consolidation of the (insert names of common school

1 districts) and the subsequent unification of the consolidated districts with  
2 the (insert name of union high school district) to form one unified school  
3 district under the consolidation and unification plan? Yes ( ) No ( )."

4 F. The county school superintendent shall hold the election during the  
5 fiscal year preceding the fiscal year consolidation is proposed to be  
6 effective on a date prescribed by section 16-204. The election shall be held  
7 in the manner and electors shall possess qualifications as prescribed for the  
8 election of governing board members. The results of the election shall be  
9 reported to the county school superintendent.

10 G. The county school superintendent and the chairman of the board of  
11 supervisors, on the seventh day after the election, shall canvass the vote.  
12 If a majority of the votes cast in each district ~~favours~~ APPROVED THE  
13 consolidation, the districts are consolidated and become one district from  
14 and after June 30 next following the election. If parts of two or more  
15 school districts are proposed to be consolidated, a majority of the voters in  
16 the part of a school district or districts not affected by the proposed  
17 consolidation and a majority of the voters in the part of the school district  
18 or districts proposed for consolidation must approve the consolidation.

19 H. If a school district provides only financing for pupils who are  
20 instructed by another school district in the same county or in an adjacent  
21 county, the school district or any part of the school district may be  
22 consolidated with the school district providing the instructional program as  
23 follows:

24 1. The governing board of the financing school district approves the  
25 consolidation or ten per cent of the qualified electors residing in the  
26 school district, or that part of the school district proposed for  
27 consolidation, petitions the county school superintendent to call an election  
28 to approve the proposed consolidation.

29 2. The governing board of the school district providing instruction  
30 approves the consolidation.

31 3. At an election called by the county school superintendent of each  
32 of the counties affected, a majority of the persons voting in the school  
33 district, or that part of the school district providing financing, ~~approves~~  
34 APPROVE the proposed consolidation and a majority of the persons voting in  
35 the district providing instruction ~~approves~~ APPROVE the proposed  
36 consolidation.

37 I. Elections held as provided in subsection H of this section shall be  
38 conducted in the same manner as elections prescribed in subsections C through  
39 G of this section and shall be held concurrently as prescribed in section  
40 15-458.

41 J. If the consolidated district includes territory located in two or  
42 more counties, the county of jurisdiction is the county in which the largest  
43 number of qualified electors of the consolidated school district resides,  
44 except that if all of the existing school buildings are in one county, that  
45 county is the county of jurisdiction. The county school superintendent of  
46 the jurisdictional county shall perform all duties for and with respect to

1 the consolidated school district as required to be performed by county school  
2 superintendents. The board of supervisors of the jurisdictional county shall  
3 perform all duties for and with respect to the consolidated school district  
4 as required to be performed by boards of supervisors, except that school  
5 district taxes to be levied on property in the portion of the consolidated  
6 school district lying in another county shall be levied by the board of  
7 supervisors of the other county or counties and on receipt shall be  
8 transferred to the county of jurisdiction. All school buildings located  
9 within the consolidated school district, together with all equipment and  
10 furnishings, become the property of the consolidated school district. Any  
11 assumed indebtedness is an indebtedness of the consolidated school district  
12 for the purpose of determining the debt incurring authority of the  
13 consolidated school district.

14 K. Sections 15-457, 15-975 and 15-997 apply to school districts ~~which~~  
15 ~~THAT~~ are consolidated as provided in subsection H of this section.

16 L. Consolidation pursuant to this section is not allowed if the  
17 resulting school district would have a student count for the current year of  
18 more than ten per cent of the total student count of all school districts in  
19 this state.

20 M. The governing board ~~IS CONSTITUTED, MAY CONDUCT MEETINGS AND~~ shall  
21 prepare policies, curricula and budgets for the new school district ~~AFTER THE~~  
22 ~~CANVASS PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION G OF THIS SECTION DEMONSTRATES THAT A MAJORITY~~  
23 ~~OF THE VOTES CAST IN EACH SCHOOL DISTRICT APPROVED THE CONSOLIDATION.~~ These  
24 policies shall require that:

25 1. The base salary and benefits of each employee for the first year of  
26 operation of the new school district shall not be lower than the employee's  
27 base salary and benefits for the prior year in the previously existing school  
28 district.

29 2. The employee's years of employment in the previously existing  
30 school district shall be included in determining the employee's years of  
31 employment in the new school district. An employee who was entitled to  
32 continuing employment contract status in the previously existing school  
33 district is entitled to continuing employment contract status in the new  
34 school district.

35 3. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection and pursuant  
36 to section 15-544, nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the  
37 ability of the governing board to implement a reduction in force or to scale  
38 back salaries of certified teachers, administrators or noncertificated  
39 employees for reasons of economy or to improve the efficient conduct of  
40 schools within the district following a school district consolidation.

41 N. If all of the districts to be consolidated have authorization for  
42 an override as provided in section 15-481 that would have continued after the  
43 consolidation, the override authorization continues for the new district and  
44 expires at the time that the earliest override would have expired.

45 O. If one or more, but not all, of the districts to be consolidated  
46 have authorization for an override as provided in section 15-481 that would

1 have continued after the consolidation, the override authorization shall only  
2 apply to the schools included under the terms of the prior override  
3 authorization. Consolidation of school districts does not consolidate or  
4 pool the liability to be taxed for the override, and only property that was  
5 located within the boundaries of the district that approved the override  
6 prior to consolidation is to pay taxes to support the override. This  
7 subsection also applies if all of the districts to be consolidated have  
8 authorization for overrides, but the authorizations are pursuant to different  
9 subsections of section 15-481 or the override amounts are not the same  
10 percentage of the revenue control limit.

11 P. Notwithstanding section 15-457, consolidation of school districts  
12 does not consolidate or pool the liability of the former school districts  
13 into the resulting school district. Outstanding indebtedness incurred by a  
14 school district before consolidation shall be repaid without interruption  
15 according to existing debt schedules as determined by the county board of  
16 supervisors. If a school district consolidates after July 1, 2004, the new  
17 school district may pay tuition to the district of attendance when a pupil is  
18 precluded by distance or lack of transportation from attending school in the  
19 district of a pupil's residence.

20 Q. If one or more of the previously existing school districts ~~was~~ WERE  
21 authorized to budget for expenses of complying with or continuing to  
22 implement activities that were required or permitted by court order of  
23 desegregation or administrative agreement with the United States department  
24 of education office for civil rights directed toward remediating alleged or  
25 proven racial discrimination pursuant to section 15-910, this authorization  
26 does not expire on the effective date of consolidation but only applies to  
27 schools included in the court order or administrative agreement.

28 R. If one or more of the previously existing school districts ~~was~~ WERE  
29 participating in a career ladder program pursuant to chapter 9, article 1.1  
30 of this title before consolidation, notwithstanding any other law the state  
31 board shall expedite the processing of and may approve an updated application  
32 for program reapproval that incorporates the geographic boundaries of the  
33 resulting school district and the inclusion of the additional staff in the  
34 career ladder program.

35 S. If the formation of a new consolidated and unified school district  
36 is authorized, the terms of the governing board members of the common and  
37 union high school districts do not expire on the effective date of the  
38 unification. The governing board members of the previously existing school  
39 districts shall serve as provided in section 15-430, except that the power of  
40 the governing board members of the previously existing school districts  
41 acting as the governing board of the unified school district is limited to  
42 the maintenance and operation of the previously existing school districts and  
43 compliance with the consolidation and unification plan.

44 Sec. 3. Section 42-17257, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
45 read:

1           42-17257. Notice of establishment or change in city, town or  
2   taxing district boundaries

3           A. On or before November 1 of the year preceding the year in which  
4 assessments or taxes are to be levied, the governing body of each city, town,  
5 school district, ~~AND~~ community college district and other special taxing  
6 districts and assessment districts that are organized by law **OR IN THE**  
7 **PROCESS OF ORGANIZING BY LAW** shall file with the department and the county  
8 assessor information prescribed by the director of the department relating to  
9 changes in boundaries and the boundaries of newly created taxing  
10 jurisdictions.

11          B. At the request of the governing body of any taxing jurisdiction on  
12 or before December 31 of the year preceding the year in which assessments or  
13 taxes are to be levied, the director may extend the deadline prescribed by  
14 subsection A **OF THIS SECTION** to allow the taxing jurisdiction to file the  
15 required information. The director may not extend this deadline beyond  
16 February 15 of the year in which assessments or taxes are to be levied.

17          C. A change in boundaries of an existing taxing jurisdiction or the  
18 establishment of a new taxing jurisdiction is not effective for assessment  
19 and tax levying purposes for the tax year unless notice has been given as  
20 prescribed by this section. **IF THE CHANGE IN BOUNDARIES OF AN EXISTING**  
21 **TAXING DISTRICT OR IF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW TAXING JURISDICTION FOR THE**  
22 **FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR IS NOT COMPLETE BY FEBRUARY 15, A PRELIMINARY FILING,**  
23 **WHICH SHALL INCLUDE ALL INFORMATION PRESCRIBED BY LAW, MAY BE SUBMITTED**  
24 **PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. AFTER THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE NEW TAXING**  
25 **JURISDICTION IS AUTHORIZED TO ACT, BUT NOT LATER THAN MAY 15, THE APPROPRIATE**  
26 **GOVERNING BODY OR BODIES SHALL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE COUNTY ASSESSOR**  
27 **OF THE FORMATION EFFECTIVE FOR THE FOLLOWING FISCAL YEAR.**

28          Sec. 4. Retroactivity

29          This act applies retroactively to from and after June 30, 2012.

APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR MARCH 21, 2013.

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE MARCH 21, 2013.