

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

HOUSE BILL 2496

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-215, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

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

2 Section 1. Section 15-215, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 15-215. Petition process for regulatory exemptions; annual
5 report

6 A. Notwithstanding any other law, IF a school district OR CHARTER
7 SCHOOL ~~that~~ has been assigned a letter grade of A pursuant to section 15-241
8 ~~for~~ DURING AT LEAST TWO OUT OF THE LAST three consecutive years AND HAS NOT
9 BEEN ASSIGNED A LETTER GRADE OF C, D OR F DURING THE SAME THREE YEARS and THE
10 SCHOOL DISTRICT OR CHARTER SCHOOL ~~that~~ does not have any schools ~~within the~~
11 ~~school district~~ UNDER ITS CONTROL that have been assigned a letter grade of F
12 pursuant to section 15-241 during the same three years, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
13 OR CHARTER SCHOOL may receive exemptions from statutes and rules as
14 prescribed in this section.

15 B. If a school district OR CHARTER SCHOOL qualifies for an exemption
16 pursuant to subsection A of this section, the school district OR CHARTER
17 SCHOOL ON APPROVAL OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL SPONSOR may identify and submit
18 exemptions to statutes and rules relating to schools, CHARTER SCHOOLS, SCHOOL
19 DISTRICT governing boards, CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES and school
20 districts to the state board of education for approval. The state board of
21 education shall review and MAY approve the exemptions submitted by the school
22 district OR CHARTER SCHOOL, except for those statutes and rules that the
23 state board of education determines directly apply to the following, AS
24 APPLICABLE:

- 25 1. Certification.
- 26 2. Health and safety.
- 27 3. State academic standards and assessments.
- 28 4. Requirements for the graduation of pupils from high school.
- 29 5. Special education.
- 30 6. Financial compliance and procurement requirements.
- 31 7. The school and school district accountability provisions of section
32 15-241.

33 C. The state board of education may make adjustments to the list of
34 exemptions submitted by school districts AND CHARTER SCHOOLS to comply with
35 voter-approved mandates and federal law in the least restrictive manner
36 allowed by law.

37 D. Exemptions previously issued by the state board of education
38 pursuant to this section shall be immediately discontinued if a school
39 district OR CHARTER SCHOOL falls below ~~a letter grade of A for three~~
40 ~~consecutive years or is assigned a letter grade of C, D or F at any time~~ THE
41 CRITERIA PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION.

42 E. The state board of education shall submit to the governor, the
43 president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives on or
44 before December 1 of each year a report that includes a list of the
45 exemptions submitted by school districts AND CHARTER SCHOOLS and a list of
46 the exemptions that were denied by the state board. The state board shall
47 provide a copy of this report to the secretary of state.