AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY ADDING SECTION 15-249.04; RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Title 15, chapter 2, article 2, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-249.04, to read:

15-249.04. Handbook of educational options

A. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRODUCE AND ANNUALLY UPDATE A HANDBOOK OF EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS THAT IS AVAILABLE FOR PARENTS OF PUPILS IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CHARter SCHOOLS. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY MAIL A COPY OF THE HANDBOOK TO THE PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL PUPILS IN THIS STATE.

B. THE HANDBOOK SHALL DESCRIBE THE EDUCATIONAL CHOICES AVAILABLE TO PUPILS, INCLUDING OPEN ENROLLMENT, CHARTER SCHOOLS, PRIVATE SCHOOLS, HOMESCHOOLING, TUITION TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS AND EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNTS. THE HANDBOOK SHALL PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW PARENTS CAN ACCESS EACH OF THESE DIFFERENT OPTIONS. THE DESCRIPTION IN THE HANDBOOK OF EACH EDUCATION CHOICE OPTION SHALL INCLUDE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE STATE AGENCY THAT ADMINISTERS THAT PARTICULAR CHOICE OPTION.

C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL POST A COPY OF THE HANDBOOK ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.

D. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE MONIES ALLOCATED TO THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO TITLE I OF THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT OF 1965 TO PAY THE COSTS OF PRODUCING AND UPDATING THE HANDBOOK AND THE POSTAGE COSTS OF MAILING THE HANDBOOK AS PRESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION.