



## Newsletter From Rep. Randy Torres District 17

January 9, 2026

### Committee Receives ACCESS Update

Members of the House and Senate Education Committees reviewed updates to the Arkansas ACCESS Act this week, underscoring its focus on strengthening the path students take from the classroom into college, careers, or service.

ACCESS builds on the LEARNS Act with a common goal. By the time students graduate, they should be enrolled, employed, or enlisted. The way the state is getting there starts earlier than many people realize. Career exploration now begins in middle school, with students starting to think about interests in sixth and seventh grade and completing a required Student Success Plan by the end of eighth grade. That plan follows them into high school and helps guide course choices and career pathways.

The Arkansas Department of