



We're rural Arkansas. Don't forget us!

Our schools and children —

1. 9 small schools are in danger of being closed by Act 60 in the next 2 years, even though they meet every other requirement for academic standards and performance, facilities, and fiscal responsibility. Small rural schools are being treated unfairly.
2. 70% of schools—overwhelmingly rural—are having to subsidize transportation of students with academic dollars. Equity demands that rural students not be penalized for living in sparsely populated areas.
3. Of 9 State Board of Education members, 6 are from northern Arkansas and 3 are from central and southern Arkansas. We need more equal representation on the State Board.
4. Many young people want to go straight into the workforce from high school. We need to study the state's vocational training programs and update them to 21st century standards.

Our rural communities —

1. The per capita income in Rural Arkansas is 22% less than the state's overall per capita income; 52% of school children live in poverty or near poverty. We need money for economic development in small communities, rural areas, and youth enterprises.
2. To put rural residents on an equal playing field, we need broadband Internet and rural transportation services.



Please join us in helping Arkansas' rural schools and Communities survive and thrive!

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