State of Arkansas
88th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2011

By: Representative Patterson

For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO DEVELOP AND CLARIFY ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
TO REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS TO DEVELOP AND CLARIFY ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 25-26-204 is amended to read as follows:

25-26-204. Procurement requirements.
(a)(1) The technology access clause specified in § 25-26-203 shall be developed by the Department of Information Systems and shall require compliance with nonvisual access standards established by the state department.

(2) The technology access clause shall be included in all contracts for the procurement of information technology by or for the use of entities covered by this subchapter on or after July 30, 1999.

(b) The nonvisual access standards established by the state pursuant to department under subsection (a) of this section shall:

(1) include such Include the specifications as are necessary to fulfill the assurances in § 25-26-203;

(2) Follow the standards for software applications and operating
systems provided by 36 C.F.R § 1194.21 as it existed on January 1, 2011;

(3) Follow the standards for web-based intranet and Internet
information and applications provided by 36 C.F.R § 1194.22 as it existed on
January 1, 2011; and

(4) shall include Include the following minimum specifications:

(1) That effective, interactive control and use of the
technology, including, but not limited to, without limitation the operating
system, applications programs, and format of the data presented, is readily
achievable by nonvisual means;

(2)(B) That the technology equipped for nonvisual access
must be is compatible with information technology used by other individuals
with whom the blind or visually impaired individual must interact;

(3)(C) That nonvisual access technology must be is
integrated into networks used to share communications among employees,
program participants, and the public; and

(4)(D) That the technology for nonvisual access must have
has the capability of providing equivalent access by nonvisual means to
telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons
who are not blind or visually impaired.

(c) The minimum specifications under subsection (b) of this section do
not prohibit the purchase or use of an information technology product that
does not meet these standards if the information manipulated or presented by
the product is inherently visual in nature, so that its meaning cannot be
conveyed nonvisually.

APPROVED: 03/25/2011