

ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2878

By: Boyd (Betty) of the
House

and

Williams of the Senate

(schools - amending 70 O.S., Section 1210.508C - Reading
Sufficiency Act - district plans - effective date -
emergency)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 349, O.S.L.
1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1210.508C), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 1210.508C A. Beginning with the 1998-99 school year,
each student enrolled in first and second grades of the public
schools of this state shall be assessed by multiple on-going
assessments for the acquisition of reading skills for the grade
level in which that student is enrolled. Before the close of the
current school year, any student, except for students who are on an
individualized education program, have limited English proficiency
or for which English is a second language, found not to be reading
at the appropriate grade level shall be provided a reading
assessment plan which shall include a program of instruction in
reading designed to enable the student to acquire the appropriate

grade level ~~of~~ reading skills. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Sufficient additional in-school instructional time for the development of reading and comprehension skills of the student;
2. If necessary, tutorial instruction after regular school hours, on Saturdays and during summer; and
3. Utilization of teaching methodologies, including phonics and other methodologies in wide practice, as is determined appropriate by the reading assessment committee.

The student shall be reassessed at the conclusion of the program of instruction. The program of instruction shall continue until the student is determined to be reading at or above grade level. The student may continue to progress to the next grade level while the tutorial reading instruction continues.

B. Each school site shall establish a committee composed of educators, which if possible shall include a certified reading specialist, to determine the reading assessment plan for each student for whom one is necessary. A parent or guardian of the student shall be included in the development of the reading assessment plan for that student. Every school district shall adopt and annually update a district plan which ~~includes~~ shall be submitted to the State Board of Education for evaluation. The district plan shall include a plan for each site ~~and~~ which outlines how each school site will comply with the provisions of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

C. For any third grade student not reading at that grade level as determined by multiple assessments including a nationally recognized reading assessment given mid-year, a new reading assessment plan shall be developed as specified in this section and implemented. In addition to other requirements of this act, the plan shall include specialized tutoring and may include a

recommendation as to whether the student should be retained in the third grade at the close of that year.

D. Copies of the results of the assessment administered pursuant to subsection A of this section shall be made a part of the permanent record of each student until the student is reading on grade level so that the results of the next grade level assessment can be measured against the previous grade level results.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1998.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of March, 1998.

Speaker of the House of
Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1998.

President of the Senate