

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 1986

By: Coleman

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 21, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 6-200), which relates to professional development institutes; authorizing the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation to offer institutes for training teachers to teach reading; stating certain components of the reading institutes; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 21, Chapter 322, O.S.L. 1995 (70 O.S. Supp. 1996, Section 6-200), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-200. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall have authority to develop and administer training for residency committees and training for professional development through professional development institutes. Professional development institutes shall be subject to the approval of the State Board of Education for professional development purposes and shall be defined as continuing education experiences which consist of a minimum of thirty (30)

clock hours. The institutes shall be competency-based, emphasize effective learning practices, require collaboration among participants, and require each participant to prepare a work product which can be utilized in the classroom by the participant.

B. The Commission may develop professional development institutes which trains teachers to instruct students in balanced and comprehensive reading programs. The institutes shall emphasize broad-based and effective means of teaching reading to students, including exposure to reading programs that incorporate phonological awareness, phonics, and decoding skills.

C. Any state professional development institutes administered by the Commission shall be chosen through a competitive bid process and if funds are available subject to peer review. The Commission, prior to offering any professional development institute, shall promulgate rules related to administering state professional development institutes.

SECTION 2. 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.