

SHORT TITLE: Schools; clarifying language. Effective date.
Emergency.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE BILL NO. 1417

By: Wilcoxson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; amending Section 3, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1997, Section 1210.508C), which relates to the Reading Sufficiency Act; clarifying language; providing an effective date; and declaring an 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~~ All students enrolled in first and second grades of the public schools ~~of~~ in 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 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~~ at

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.

46-2-1910

PHB