EHB 1365

THE STATE SENATE
Tuesday, March 30, 1999

ENGROSSED

House Bill No. 1365

As Amended

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1365 - By: BEGLEY and JONES of the House and WILLIAMS and HOBSON of the Senate.

(education - amending 70 O.S., Sections 1210.508A, 1210.508C and 1210.508D - Reading Sufficiency Act - effective date)

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 1997 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1210.508A), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.508A Sections ~~1~~ 1210.508A through ~~3~~ 1210.508D of this ~~act~~ title shall be known and may be cited as the "Reading Sufficiency Act".

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 349, O.S.L. 1997, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 332, O.S.L. 1998 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1210.508C), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.508C A. Beginning with the 1998-99 school year, each student enrolled in kindergarten, first, second and third grade of the public schools of this state shall be assessed by multiple ~~on-going~~ ongoing assessments for the acquisition of reading skills for the grade level in which that student is enrolled. Before the

close of each school year, except for students who are on an individualized education program, have limited English proficiency or for which English is a second language, any of the students provided for in this subsection 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 reading skills.

B. The reading assessment plan required in subsection A of this section 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; however, such instruction may not be counted toward the one-hundred-eighty-day school year required in Section 1-109 of this title; and

3. The five essential elements of reading instruction: phoneme awareness, phonics, spelling, reading fluency and comprehension.

C. The reading assessment plan program of instruction shall continue until the student is determined not to be in need of remediation in reading.

~~B.~~ D. 1. Every school district shall adopt and annually update a district reading sufficiency plan which has had input from school

administrators, teachers, students, and parents and if possible a reading specialist, and which shall be submitted to and approved by the State Board of Education as a part of each district's Comprehensive Local Education Plan. The district reading sufficiency plan shall include a plan for each site which includes an analysis of the data provided by the Oklahoma School Testing Program and other reading assessments utilized, and which outlines how each school site will comply with the provisions of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

2. 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.

3. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the implementation of the provisions of this section.

~~C.~~ E. For any third-grade student in need of remediation as determined by multiple ongoing assessments and reading assessments administered in the Oklahoma School Testing Program, a new reading assessment plan shall be developed and implemented as specified in this section. If possible, a fourth-grade teacher shall be involved in the development of the reading assessment plan. 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. The parent or guardian of the student shall be included in the retention consideration.

F. The State Department of Education shall annually issue a Reading Report Card for each elementary site which includes the number of students in need of remediation in reading in kindergarten, first, second and third grades.

~~D.~~ G. Copies of the results of the assessments administered shall be made a part of the permanent record of each student.

SECTION 3. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 332, O.S.L. 1998 (70 O.S. Supp. 1998, Section 1210.508D), is amended to read as follows:

Section 1210.508D A. Contingent on the provision of appropriated funds designated for the Reading Sufficiency Act, ~~the State Department of Education is hereby authorized to award schools~~ school districts may be reimbursed in the amount of up to One Hundred Fifty Dollars ($150.00) for each enrolled first-, second- and third-grade student of the current school year who is found to be in need of remediation in reading. The reimbursement shall be for expenses incurred in reading assessment and remediation at those

grade levels pursuant to the provisions of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

B. ~~Each school district that received funds pursuant to the Reading Sufficiency Act for the previous school year shall report receipt and expenditure of the funds to the State Department of Education by project reporting code, object and program classification as part of the final revenue report and final expenditure report pursuant to the Oklahoma Cost Accounting System~~ In order to be reimbursed, school districts shall file a claim with the State Department of Education at the end of each school semester. Claims from summer remediation shall be filed with the first semester claim of the subsequent school year. Claims shall be reimbursed in a timely manner. The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules for the administration of reimbursements.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1999.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, dated 3-24-99 - DO PASS, As Amended.