

3 **Senate Bill No. 1493**
4 **As Amended**

5 SENATE BILL NO. 1493 - By: PADDACK of the Senate and DANK of the
6 House.

7 [schools - professional development - special education -
8 effective date]

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

10 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as
11 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 127, O.S.L. 2005 (70 O.S. Supp.
12 2005, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

13 Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this
14 state shall establish professional development programs for the
15 certified and licensed teachers and administrators of the district.
16 Programs shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations
17 of a professional development committee appointed by the board of
18 education for the district. The State Board of Education shall
19 disseminate to each district professional development committee a
20 copy of the in-service professional development competencies
21 included in the Report on Educator Preparation and Professional
22 Development issued in December 1994 by the Oklahoma Commission for
23 Teacher Preparation for review and consideration and, if approved by
24 the professional development committee, to be included in part or in

1 whole in the professional development plan of the school district.
2 The professional development centers funded through the State Board
3 of Education shall provide technical assistance to any school
4 district which desires to incorporate any such competencies into its
5 professional development plan.

6 B. Each professional development committee shall include
7 classroom teachers, administrators and parents, guardians or
8 custodians of children in the school district and shall consult with
9 a higher education faculty. A majority of the members of the
10 professional development committee shall be composed of classroom
11 teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a designated
12 administrator of the school district from a list of names submitted
13 by the teachers in the school district. The members selected shall
14 be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the
15 district. At a minimum, once every four (4) years the committee
16 shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

17 C. The professional development programs adopted may include,
18 but not be limited to:

- 19 1. In-service training programs;
- 20 2. Higher education courses; and
- 21 3. Professional development programs approved by the Oklahoma
22 Commission for Teacher Preparation.

1 Programs shall emphasize development of competencies in the core
2 curriculum areas. Each program shall include components on
3 classroom management and student discipline strategies, outreach to
4 parents, guardians or custodians of students, special education, and
5 racial and ethnic education, which all personnel defined as teachers
6 in Section 1-116 of this title shall be required to complete on a
7 periodic basis. The State Board of Education shall provide
8 guidelines to assist school districts in developing and implementing
9 racial and ethnic education components into professional development
10 programs. Each adopted program shall allow school counselors to
11 receive at least one-third (1/3) of the hours or credit required
12 each year through programs or courses specifically designed for
13 school counselors. Programs shall be submitted for approval to the
14 Board. No school district shall receive state funds for
15 professional development until the program adopted by the board of
16 education has been approved by the Board.

17 D. Teachers and administrators who have completed professional
18 development courses in their field of instruction or in courses
19 related to obtaining additional professional qualifications and who
20 complete such courses and receive a grade which is equivalent to at
21 least a 3.0 on a 4.0 grading scale may be reimbursed by the school
22 district for one-half (1/2) of the general enrollment fees incurred
23 at any institution within The Oklahoma State System for Higher

1 Education. If the teacher or administrator incurs costs pursuant to
2 this section at a private institution of higher education, the
3 person may be reimbursed by the school district for an amount equal
4 to one-half (1/2) of the general enrollment fees incurred at an
5 institution of The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education of
6 comparable type.

7 E. If funds are made available specifically for such purpose,
8 teachers who have completed professional development programs
9 approved by the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall
10 receive a stipend based on the amount of funds allocated. No school
11 district shall receive state funds for teacher stipends until such
12 time as proof of the teacher's attendance and completion of the
13 program has been determined by the State Department of Education.

14 F. Each licensed or certified teacher in this state shall be
15 required by the district board of education to meet the professional
16 development requirements established by the board, or established
17 through the negotiation process. Provided, the professional
18 development requirements established by each board of education
19 shall require every teacher to annually complete a minimum number of
20 the total number of points required to maintain employment. Failure
21 of any teacher to meet district board of education professional
22 development requirements may be grounds for nonrenewal of such

1 teacher's contract by the board. Such failure may also be grounds
2 for nonconsideration of salary increments affecting the teacher.

3 G. The professional development plan shall be submitted to the
4 State Board of Education as provided in Section 3-104.2 et seq. of
5 this title.

6 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

7 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-13-06 - DO
8 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.