

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 2508

6 By: Coody

7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
9 Section 6-200, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 249,
10 O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-200),
11 which relates to professional development institutes;
12 expanding the reading professional development
13 institutes to include middle level; making expansion
14 contingent upon funding; providing an effective date;
15 and declaring an emergency.

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

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-200, as
18 amended by Section 1, Chapter 249, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007,
19 Section 6-200), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 6-200. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the
21 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall have authority to
22 develop and administer training for residency committees and
23 training for professional development through professional
24 development institutes. Included in the professional development
institutes training shall be technology training. Professional
development institutes shall be accepted by the State Board of

1 Education for professional development purposes and shall be defined
2 as continuing education experiences which consist of a minimum of
3 thirty (30) clock hours. The institutes shall be competency-based,
4 emphasize effective learning practices, require collaboration among
5 participants, and require each participant to prepare a work product
6 which can be utilized in the classroom by the participant. Any
7 state professional development institutes administered by the
8 Commission shall be chosen through a competitive bid process and if
9 funds are available subject to peer review. The Commission, prior
10 to offering any professional development institute, shall promulgate
11 rules related to administering state professional development
12 institutes.

13 B. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall
14 develop, offer and administer professional development institutes to
15 train elementary school teachers in reading education and if funds
16 are available, to train middle school teachers in reading education.
17 Funds appropriated for this purpose shall be used for the cost of
18 developing, administering and contracting for the professional
19 development institutes. When possible, certified reading
20 specialists shall be included as consultants. All costs of the
21 institutes shall be included in the contract price and no tuition or
22 registration fee shall be collected from teachers attending the
23 institutes. The institutes shall be offered by or through the
24 Commission. Working in conjunction with the State Department of

1 Education, the Commission shall develop a state plan for
2 administration of such institutes and shall report on or before
3 November 1 of each year to the Governor and the Legislature on the
4 format of and participation in the institutes. The State Department
5 of Education shall cooperate with and provide any information
6 requested, including data available through the state student record
7 system, to the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation as is
8 necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

9 C. Subject to the availability of funds, the Oklahoma
10 Commission for Teacher Preparation shall:

11 1. Contract for an independent evaluation of the ~~elementary~~
12 ~~school~~ reading professional development ~~institute~~ institutes. The
13 evaluation shall determine adherence to program requirements as
14 provided in this section and the program's effectiveness in
15 increasing teacher knowledge and student achievement; and

16 2. Provide continued support of the ~~elementary-school~~ reading
17 professional development institutes through ongoing teacher
18 development at individual school sites. Funds may be used for the
19 cost of mentor training, payment for substitute teachers, on-site
20 facilitation, and any other costs necessary to ensure improved
21 reading by students.

22 D. 1. For the purpose of implementing comprehensive reading
23 reform and systemic change, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher
24 Preparation shall award one-year grants renewable for up to two (2)

1 additional years to public schools that serve students in
2 kindergarten through third grade. The grants will provide for:

3 a. a five-day initial professional development institute
4 in elementary school reading for teachers of
5 kindergarten through third grade, instructional
6 leaders, and principals,

7 b. a three-day follow-up professional development
8 institute in elementary school reading for teachers of
9 kindergarten through third grade and instructional
10 leaders, and

11 c. continued support through ongoing teacher development
12 at school sites, including four (4) days of
13 professional development for principals and literacy
14 resource specialists, and six (6) days of on-site
15 visits by a program consultant.

16 2. In order to qualify for a grant pursuant to this subsection,
17 the following requirements shall be met:

18 a. at least eighty percent (80%) of the teachers of
19 kindergarten through third grade at the school shall
20 have demonstrated support for the training program
21 provided pursuant to this subsection,

22 b. the principal shall ensure that all members of the
23 leadership team and all teachers of kindergarten
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1 through third grade will participate in all phases of
2 the training program,

3 c. the school district shall ensure that any new teacher
4 of kindergarten through third grade or principal at
5 the school will participate in all phases of the
6 training program, and

7 d. the school district shall employ a literacy resource
8 specialist for at least two (2) years after completion
9 of the training provided in this subsection. One or
10 more districts may share a literacy resource
11 specialist upon approval of the Commission.

12 3. Any school which has been determined by the State Board of
13 Education to be a school in need of improvement or a school that has
14 not made adequate yearly progress in reading shall be given priority
15 for receipt of a grant. Grants shall be awarded based on the amount
16 of funds allocated to the Commission for Teacher Preparation for the
17 purposes of this section. Funds may be used for payment for
18 substitute teachers, program consultants, on-site facilitation, and
19 literacy resource specialists.

20 4. For program evaluation purposes, each school awarded a grant
21 pursuant to this subsection shall provide to the Commission student-
22 level data and results of the reading assessments administered
23 pursuant to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act for the year
24 prior to the grant award, for each year a grant is received by the

1 school, and for three (3) years after completion of the program. If
2 funds are not sufficient to award grants to all eligible applicants,
3 schools may be placed on a waiting list for priority consideration
4 for the following year's round of grant awards which shall be
5 superior to the priority given to schools as provided in paragraph 3
6 of this subsection, if the school provides student data for the
7 current year to the Commission as provided in this paragraph.

8 5. The professional development institutes in elementary
9 reading provided pursuant to this section shall incorporate the
10 requirements of the Reading Sufficiency Act.

11 E. As additional funds become available for such purpose, the
12 Commission shall develop and offer professional development
13 institutes in:

- 14 1. Mathematics for teachers in grades five through nine;
- 15 2. The use of technology in the classroom;
- 16 3. Training of residency committee members in teacher
17 mentoring; and
- 18 4. Hands-on inquiry-based science for elementary teachers.

19 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2008.

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

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