

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE  
2 BILL NO. 3175

By: Coody of the House

3 and

4 Wilcoxson of the Senate

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7  
8 ( schools - assessments to certain teacher  
9 candidates - creating the Task Force on Reading  
10 Instruction for Teacher Candidates -  
11 noncodification -  
12 emergency )

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15  
16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 4, Chapter 431, O.S.L.  
18 2005 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 1210.508F), is amended to read as  
19 follows:

20 Section 1210.508F A. The State Board of Education shall ensure  
21 that the reading competencies for elementary teachers are included  
22 in the competencies for special education teachers.

23 B. The State Board of Education and the Oklahoma Commission for  
24 Teacher Preparation in collaboration with the Oklahoma State Regents

1 for Higher Education shall ensure that all teachers of early  
2 childhood education, elementary education, and special education are  
3 provided quality training in intervention, instruction, and  
4 remediation strategies in order to meet the needs of students in  
5 kindergarten through third grade who are determined to be at risk of  
6 reading difficulties.

7 C. Beginning with the 2009-2010 school year, all institutions  
8 within The Oklahoma State System of Higher Education that offer  
9 elementary education, early childhood education, or special  
10 education programs shall administer a reading assessment to teacher  
11 candidates in the programs. The purpose of the reading assessment  
12 shall be to provide systematically collected data on how each  
13 elementary, early childhood, or special education teacher has been  
14 prepared to teach the five components of reading: phonemic  
15 awareness, phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency. The  
16 Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation and the Oklahoma State  
17 Regents for Higher Education shall work with the Task Force on  
18 Reading Instruction for Teacher Candidates created in Section 2 of  
19 this act on the development of the reading assessment and shall  
20 collaborate on the implementation of the assessment. The reading  
21 assessment may be administered electronically. The reading  
22 assessment shall be administered to the teacher candidate by the  
23 institution upon entrance into an elementary education, early  
24 childhood education, or special education program and upon exiting

1 the program. Each institution shall forward aggregated results of  
2 the assessments to the Commission and the State Regents as part of  
3 the required annual report.

4 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be  
5 codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

6 A. There is hereby created to continue until July 1, 2009, the  
7 Task Force on Reading Instruction for Teacher Candidates. The  
8 purpose of the Task Force shall be to develop a reading assessment  
9 that is required of teacher candidates as set forth in subsection C  
10 of Section 1210.508F of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes and to  
11 study the reading knowledge and skills of teachers.

12 B. The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

13 1. One member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives,  
14 appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives;

15 2. One member of the State Senate, appointed by the President  
16 Pro Tempore of the State Senate;

17 3. Two members who are elementary or early childhood reading  
18 teachers in a public school in the state, appointed by the Governor;

19 4. Four members who are reading faculty in a teacher education  
20 program at an institution within The Oklahoma State System of Higher  
21 Education, two to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
22 Representatives and two to be appointed by the President Pro Tempore  
23 of the Senate;

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1           5. One member who is an officer for the Oklahoma Reading  
2 Association, appointed by the Governor;

3           6. The Reading Curriculum Director for the State Department of  
4 Education, or a designee selected by the State Superintendent of  
5 Public Instruction;

6           7. The Executive Director of the Oklahoma Commission for  
7 Teacher Preparation or a designee; and

8           8. The Director of Teacher Education for the Oklahoma State  
9 Regents for Higher Education, or a designee selected by the  
10 Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

11           C. Members of the Task Force shall be appointed no later than  
12 September 1, 2008. The first meeting of the Task Force shall be  
13 called by the Chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher  
14 Education. Subsequent meetings shall be held at the call of the  
15 chair or vice-chair. The chair and vice-chair of the Task Force  
16 shall be elected by the members at the first meeting of the Task  
17 Force.

18           D. Members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation but  
19 shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

20           1. Legislative members shall be reimbursed for their necessary  
21 travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in  
22 accordance with Section 456 of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;  
23 and

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1           2. Nonlegislative members shall be reimbursed by their  
2 respective agencies or appointing authority for their necessary  
3 travel expenses in the performance of their duties in accordance  
4 with the State Travel Reimbursement Act.

5           E. Staffing for the Task Force shall be performed by the staff  
6 of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the State Senate.

7           F. The Task Force shall have the following duties and shall  
8 make a report of its work and any recommendations to the Governor,  
9 Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives, and the President  
10 Pro Tempore of the State Senate by February 1, 2009:

11           1. Develop a reading assessment that is required of teacher  
12 candidates as set forth in subsection C of Section 1210.508F of  
13 Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes, which assessment shall be based  
14 on an analysis of scientifically based reading research;

15           2. Survey resident teachers on their knowledge in the five  
16 components of reading: phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension,  
17 vocabulary, and fluency;

18           3. Study existing reading surveys of teachers;

19           4. Determine the reading knowledge that is necessary for a  
20 teacher to be a successful reading teacher; and

21           5. Make recommendations on reading education curriculum for  
22 elementary education, early childhood education, and special  
23 education teacher education programs.

