

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 19, 2008

Committee Substitute for
House Bill No. 2508

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 2508 - By: COODY and KERN of the House and _____ of the Senate.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-200, as amended by
2 Section 1, Chapter 249, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-200), is amended to
3 read as follows:
4 Section 6-200. A. Subject to the availability of funds, the Oklahoma Commission
5 for Teacher Preparation shall have authority to develop and administer training for
6 residency committees and training for professional development through professional
7 development institutes. Included in the professional development institutes training
8 shall be technology training. Professional development institutes shall be accepted by
9 the State Board of Education for professional development purposes and shall be defined
10 as continuing education experiences which consist of a minimum of thirty (30) clock

1 hours. The institutes shall be competency-based, emphasize effective learning practices,
2 require collaboration among participants, and require each participant to prepare a work
3 product which can be utilized in the classroom by the participant. Any state professional
4 development institutes administered by the Commission shall be chosen through a
5 competitive bid process and if funds are available subject to peer review. The
6 Commission, prior to offering any professional development institute, shall promulgate
7 rules related to administering state professional development institutes.

8 B. The Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall develop, offer and
9 administer professional development institutes to train elementary school teachers in
10 reading education and if funds are available, to train middle school teachers in reading
11 education. Funds appropriated for this purpose shall be used for the cost of developing,
12 administering and contracting for the professional development institutes. When
13 possible, certified reading specialists shall be included as consultants. All costs of the
14 institutes shall be included in the contract price and no tuition or registration fee shall be
15 collected from teachers attending the institutes. The institutes shall be offered by or
16 through the Commission. Working in conjunction with the State Department of
17 Education, the Commission shall develop a state plan for administration of such
18 institutes and shall report on or before November 1 of each year to the Governor and the
19 Legislature on the format of and participation in the institutes. The State Department of
20 Education shall cooperate with and provide any information requested, including data
21 available through the state student record system, to the Oklahoma Commission for
22 Teacher Preparation as is necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

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

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

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

11 D. 1. For the purpose of implementing comprehensive reading reform and systemic
12 change, the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation shall award one-year grants
13 renewable for up to two (2) additional years to public schools that serve students in
14 kindergarten through third grade. The grants will provide for:

15 a. a five-day initial professional development institute in elementary
16 school reading for teachers of kindergarten through third grade,
17 instructional leaders, and principals,

18 b. a three-day follow-up professional development institute in elementary
19 school reading for teachers of kindergarten through third grade and
20 instructional leaders, and

21 c. continued support through ongoing teacher development at school
22 sites, including four (4) days of professional development for principals

1 and literacy resource specialists, and six (6) days of on-site visits by a
2 program consultant.

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

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

8 b. the principal shall ensure that all members of the leadership team and
9 all teachers of kindergarten through third grade will participate in all
10 phases of the training program,

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

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

18 3. Any school which has been determined by the State Board of Education to be a
19 school in need of improvement or a school that has not made adequate yearly progress in
20 reading shall be given priority for receipt of a grant. Grants shall be awarded based on
21 the amount of funds allocated to the Commission for Teacher Preparation for the

UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.

1 purposes of this section. Funds may be used for payment for substitute teachers,
2 program consultants, on-site facilitation, and literacy resource specialists.

3 4. For program evaluation purposes, each school awarded a grant pursuant to this
4 subsection shall provide to the Commission student-level data and results of the reading
5 assessments administered pursuant to the Oklahoma School Testing Program Act for the
6 year prior to the grant award, for each year a grant is received by the school, and for
7 three (3) years after completion of the program. If funds are not sufficient to award
8 grants to all eligible applicants, schools may be placed on a waiting list for priority
9 consideration for the following year's round of grant awards which shall be superior to
10 the priority given to schools as provided in paragraph 3 of this subsection, if the school
11 provides student data for the current year to the Commission as provided in this
12 paragraph.

13 5. The professional development institutes in elementary reading provided
14 pursuant to this section shall incorporate the requirements of the Reading Sufficiency
15 Act.

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

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

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

1 SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public
2 peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
3 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and
4 after its passage and approval.
5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 02-18-08 - DO
6 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.