

3 Senate Bill No. 1686

4 SENATE BILL NO. 1686 - By: EASLEY and GUMM of the Senate and
5 McDANIEL (Jeannie) of the House.

6 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001, Section
7 6-194, as last amended by Section 1, Chapter 52, O.S.L. 2007
8 (70 O.S. Supp. 2007, Section 6-194), which relates to
9 district professional development programs; modifying
10 certain authorized professional development to include a
11 special emphasis on autism; providing an effective date; and
12 declaring an emergency.

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

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 6-194, as
15 last amended by Section 1, Chapter 52, O.S.L. 2007 (70 O.S. Supp.
16 2007, Section 6-194), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 6-194. A. The district boards of education of this
18 state shall establish professional development programs for the
19 certified and licensed teachers and administrators of the district.
20 Programs shall be adopted by each board based upon recommendations
21 of a professional development committee appointed by the board of
22 education for the district.

23 B. Each professional development committee shall include
24 classroom teachers, administrators and parents, guardians or
25 custodians of children in the school district and shall consult with
26 a higher education faculty. A majority of the members of the
27 professional development committee shall be composed of classroom

1 teachers. The teacher members shall be selected by a designated
2 administrator of the school district from a list of names submitted
3 by the teachers in the school district. The members selected shall
4 be subject to the approval of a majority vote of the teachers in the
5 district. At a minimum, once every four (4) years the committee
6 shall include at least one school counselor in its membership.

7 C. In developing program recommendations, each professional
8 development committee shall annually utilize a data-driven approach
9 to analyze student data and determine district and school
10 professional development needs. The professional development
11 programs adopted shall be directed toward development of
12 competencies and instructional strategies in the core curriculum
13 areas for the following goals:

- 14 1. Increasing the academic performance index scores for the
15 district and each school site;
- 16 2. Closing achievement gaps among student subgroups;
- 17 3. Increasing student achievement as demonstrated on state-
18 mandated tests and the ACT;
- 19 4. Increasing high school graduation rates; and
- 20 5. Decreasing college remediation rates.

21 Each program may also include components on classroom management
22 and student discipline strategies, outreach to parents, guardians or
23 custodians of students, special education, which shall include a

1 special emphasis on autism, and racial and ethnic education, which
2 all personnel defined as teachers in Section 1-116 of this title
3 shall be required to complete on a periodic basis. The State Board
4 of Education shall provide guidelines to assist school districts in
5 developing and implementing racial and ethnic education components
6 into professional development programs. At least once a year a
7 program shall be offered which includes a component of teacher
8 training on recognition and reporting of child abuse and neglect
9 which all teachers shall be required to complete. Each adopted
10 program shall allow school counselors to receive at least one-third
11 (1/3) of the hours or credit required each year through programs or
12 courses specifically designed for school counselors.

13 Districts are authorized to utilize any means for professional
14 development that is not prohibited by law including, but not limited
15 to, professional development provided by the district, any state
16 agency, institution of higher education, or any private entity.

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

1 of any teacher to meet district board of education professional
2 development requirements may be grounds for nonrenewal of such
3 teacher's contract by the board. Such failure may also be grounds
4 for nonconsideration of salary increments affecting the teacher.

5 E. Each district shall annually submit a report to the State
6 Department of Education on the district level professional
7 development needs, activities completed, expenditures, and results
8 achieved for each school year by each goal as provided in subsection
9 C of this section.

10 F. Subject to the availability of funds, the Department shall
11 develop an online system for reporting as required in subsection E
12 of this section. The Department shall also make such information
13 available on its website.

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

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

19 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 2-11-08 - DO
20 PASS, As Coauthored.