

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 April 5, 2011

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 1269

By: Coody and Kern of the House

5 and

6 Jolley of the Senate

7
8 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2001,
9 Section 1210.508B, as last amended by Section 9,
10 Chapter 456, O.S.L. 2009 (70 O.S. Supp. 2010, Section
11 1210.508B), which relates to the Reading Sufficiency
12 Act; requiring all reading instruction in certain
13 grades to include certain elements of instruction;
14 and listing elements.

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

16 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2001, Section 1210.508B,
17 as last amended by Section 9, Chapter 456, O.S.L. 2009 (70 O.S.
18 Supp. 2010, Section 1210.508B), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1210.508B A. The Legislature finds that it is
20 essential for children in the public schools to read early and well
21 in elementary school. The Legislature further finds that clear and
22 visible goals, assessments to determine the reading level at each
23 elementary school, annual measurements of elementary school reading
24 improvement, and accountability in each level of the educational

1 system will result in a significant increase in the number of
2 children reading at or above grade level.

3 B. The purpose of the Reading Sufficiency Act is to ensure that
4 each child attains the necessary reading skills by completion of the
5 third grade which will enable that student to continue development
6 of reading skills and to succeed throughout school and life.

7 C. Each public school district in this state shall ensure that
8 a majority of the instructional time each day of the school year in
9 kindergarten through third grade is focused on reading and
10 mathematics. The State Board of Education shall encourage school
11 districts to integrate the teaching of the other curricular areas in
12 the Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS) adopted by the Board
13 with the instruction of reading and mathematics. All teachers of
14 reading in the public schools in this state in kindergarten through
15 third grade shall incorporate into instruction the five elements of
16 reading instruction which are phonemic awareness, phonics, reading
17 fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

18 D. The reading goal for Oklahoma public schools is as follows:
19 By July 1, 2008, and each year thereafter, all third-grade students
20 will read at or above grade level by the end of their third-grade
21 year, excluding up to fifteen percent (15%) of those students who
22 have an individualized education program (IEP), pursuant to the
23 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and excluding
24 those students who are English language learners who have been

1 determined not to be proficient in English as defined by a state-
2 designated English proficiency assessment. To achieve the reading
3 goal, each public elementary school shall:

4 1. Determine its baseline no later than September 1, 2005,
5 which shall be the percentage of students reading at or above third-
6 grade level as determined by the percentage of students scoring
7 proficient or above on the third-grade criterion-referenced test in
8 reading, administered pursuant to Section 1210.508 of this title;
9 and

10 2. Set and achieve annual improvement goals necessary to
11 progress from the baseline established in 2005 to the reading goal
12 by July 1, 2008. The annual improvement goals shall be included in
13 the district's reading sufficiency plan required in Section
14 1210.508C of this title.

15 E. The State Board of Education shall recognize schools and
16 districts that attain or make progress toward achieving the reading
17 goal and shall provide technical assistance to schools and districts
18 that do not make progress toward the reading goal. The district
19 reading sufficiency plan shall be submitted to the State Board if
20 the district has any schools that are not achieving the required
21 annual improvement goals pursuant to this section.

22 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, dated 4-4-11 - DO PASS.

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