

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE
2 BILL NO. 1303

By: Hoskin, Kern and Pittman of
the House

3 and

4 Burrage of the Senate
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6
7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 1210.515, which relates to reading
9 proficiency tests for driver licenses; allowing
10 submission of reading proficiency tests from other
11 states; and providing an effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1210.515, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1210.515 A. Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2
16 of subsection A of Section 6-107.3 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma
17 Statutes, any person under the age of eighteen (18) years wishing to
18 apply for a driver license or permit shall successfully demonstrate
19 a satisfactory reading ability at the eighth-grade reading level by
20 meeting the following criteria:

21 1. A student enrolled in a public school shall successfully
22 complete the reading portion of the state criterion-referenced test
23 offered in the eighth grade. Following the administration of this
24 test in the eighth grade, any student not successfully completing

1 the reading portion shall be assigned a plan of remedial reading.
2 Any student not successful in completing the reading portion of the
3 state criterion-referenced test may take a comparable alternative
4 reading proficiency test in order to satisfy the criteria for a
5 driver license or permit. Alternative reading proficiency tests
6 shall be approved by the State Department of Education. Subsequent
7 successful completion of an alternative reading proficiency test
8 shall serve to satisfy any test retaking requirement which may be
9 required for the reading portion of the state criterion-referenced
10 test in the eighth grade in the Oklahoma School Testing Program.
11 School districts shall notify, in writing, each student who takes
12 the reading portion of the state criterion-referenced test for the
13 eighth grade or who takes an alternative reading proficiency test
14 and the student's parent or legal guardian of the test results. If
15 the student fails to perform satisfactorily on the test, the notice
16 shall inform the student of the reading proficiency driver license
17 requirement and the school's remediation plan for the student. Upon
18 the student's successful completion of the test, the school shall
19 furnish the student with the documentation needed for the driver
20 license application in Oklahoma;

21 2. Unless alternatively documented according to the provisions
22 of subsection C of this section, students under the age of eighteen
23 (18) years shall successfully complete a reading proficiency test
24 approved by the State Department of Education; and

1 3. Any student who wishes to apply for a restricted license to
2 operate a motorcycle may take an alternative reading proficiency
3 test, subject to the provisions of this section.

4 B. Alternative reading proficiency tests shall be offered by
5 testing sites, which shall include the public schools at least four
6 ~~(4)~~ times per calendar year, and may include any of the following
7 which chose to participate, the technology center school districts,
8 Regional Education Service Centers, colleges, accredited private
9 schools, and other sites approved by the State Department of
10 Education. A student may take the test as often as wished, subject
11 to the provisions of this section. Testing sites shall provide the
12 first alternative reading proficiency test for each student at no
13 cost to the student. Students may be assessed a fee not to exceed
14 Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) by the testing site for each subsequent
15 alternative reading proficiency test taken.

16 C. A school district shall provide for alternative
17 documentation of reading proficiency for the purposes of paragraph 2
18 of subsection A of Section 6-107.3 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma
19 Statutes for any student with an individualized education program
20 that, at a minimum, is in an area related to reading. The
21 alternative documentation shall be furnished to such student who is
22 performing satisfactorily in reading pursuant to the ~~student's~~
23 individualized education program of the student. Parents of
24 disabled students educated pursuant to the provisions of Section 4

1 of Article XIII of the Oklahoma Constitution may satisfy the
2 requirement of paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 6-107.3 of
3 Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes by signing an affidavit that,
4 based upon their best information and belief, their child would
5 qualify for an individualized education program that, at a minimum,
6 is in an area related to reading if enrolled in public school, and
7 that in their judgment their child is performing satisfactorily in
8 reading and is therefore academically qualified to satisfy the
9 requirement of paragraph 2 of subsection A of Section 6-107.3 of
10 Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

11 D. Any person under the age of eighteen (18) who has previously
12 completed and successfully passed a reading proficiency test from
13 another state may submit the results of such test to the State
14 Department of Education for verification and approval. The State
15 Department of Education shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of
16 the reading proficiency results submitted by the person to verify
17 that the reading proficiency requirements from the other state are
18 equivalent or comparable to the reading proficiency requirements
19 established for Oklahoma students pursuant to this section. Upon
20 verification and approval by the State Department of Education, the
21 Department shall furnish the person with the documentation needed
22 for the driver license application in Oklahoma. If the reading
23 proficiency documentation submitted by the person is disapproved by
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1 the Department, the person may take an alternative reading
2 proficiency test as provided for in subsection B of this section.

3 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2013.

4 Passed the House of Representatives the 5th day of March, 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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8 Passed the Senate the ___ day of _____, 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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