

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

3 HOUSE BILL 3423

By: Shelton

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6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to schools; amending 70 O.S. 2011,
8 Section 1210.508B, which relates to the Reading
9 Sufficiency Act; clarifying statutory language; and
10 providing an effective date.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 1210.508B,
14 is amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1210.508B A. The Legislature finds that it is
16 essential for children in the public schools to read early and well
17 in elementary school. The Legislature further finds that clear and
18 visible goals, assessments to determine the reading level at each
19 elementary school, annual measurements of elementary school reading
20 improvement, and accountability in each level of the educational
21 system will result in a significant increase in the number of
22 children reading at or above grade level.

23 B. The purpose of the Reading Sufficiency Act is to ensure that
24 each child attains the necessary reading skills by completion of the

1 third grade which will enable that student to continue development
2 of reading skills and to succeed throughout school and life.

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

14 D. The reading goal for Oklahoma public schools is as follows:
15 By July 1, 2008, and each year thereafter, all third-grade students
16 will read at or above grade level by the end of their third-grade
17 year, excluding up to fifteen percent (15%) of those students who
18 have an individualized education program (IEP), pursuant to the
19 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and excluding
20 those students who are English language learners who have been
21 determined not to be proficient in English as defined by a state-
22 designated English proficiency assessment. To achieve the reading
23 goal, each public elementary school shall:

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

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

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

20 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2014.

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