

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 53rd Legislature (2011)

3 HOUSE BILL 1269

By: Coody

6 AS INTRODUCED

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 designated English proficiency assessment. To achieve the reading
2 goal, each public elementary school shall:

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

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

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

21 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2010.

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

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