

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Second Extraordinary Session, 2003
4

Call Item 4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1170

5 By: Representatives P. Bookout, Elliott, Chesterfield, J. Johnson, Green, C. Johnson
6 By: Senators J. Bookout, G. Jeffress, Argue, J. Jeffress, Wilkins, Gullett
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO PROVIDE TEACHERS WITH QUALITY
11 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT WILL PROMOTE AND
12 ENHANCE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS; AND
13 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 TO PROVIDE TEACHERS WITH QUALITY
16 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT THAT WILL
17 PROMOTE AND ENHANCE LEARNING
18 OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 7, is amended
25 to add a new section to read as follows:

26 6-17-704. Professional development plan.

27 (a) For purposes of this section, "professional development" means a
28 coordinated set of planned learning activities for teachers, administrators,
29 and classified employees that are standards-based and continuous.

30 (b) The purpose of professional development is to improve teaching and
31 learning in order to facilitate individual, school-wide, and system-wide
32 improvements designed to ensure that all students demonstrate proficiency on
33 state academic standards.

34 (c)(1) Beginning with school year 2004-2005, each school district
35 shall prepare a professional development plan.

36 (2)(A) Teachers, administrators, and classified school employees



1 shall be involved in the design, implementation, and evaluation of their
 2 respective professional development offerings under the plan.

3 (B) The evaluation results shall be given to each group of
 4 employees in the school district and used to improve professional development
 5 offerings.

6 (d) The professional development offerings may include approved
 7 conferences, workshops, institutes, individual learning, mentoring, peer-
 8 coaching, study groups, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
 9 certification, distance learning, internships, and college or university
 10 course work.

11 (e)(1) The professional development offerings may meet the objectives
 12 of subdivision (e)(2) developed by the National Staff Development Council and
 13 shall comply with the rules of the Department of Education governing
 14 professional development.

15 (2) Professional development that improves the learning of all
 16 students:

17 (A) Requires skillful school and school district leaders
 18 who guide continuous instructional improvement;

19 (B) Organizes educators into learning communities whose
 20 goals are aligned with those of the school and school district;

21 (C) Provides resources to support educator learning and
 22 collaboration;

23 (D) Uses disaggregated student data to determine educator
 24 learning priorities, monitor progress, and help sustain continuous
 25 improvements;

26 (E) Uses multiple sources of information to guide educator
 27 improvement and demonstrate its impact;

28 (F) Prepares educators to apply research to decision
 29 making;

30 (G) Uses learning strategies appropriate to the intended
 31 goal;

32 (H) Applies knowledge about human learning and change;

33 (I) Prepares educators to understand and appreciate all
 34 students;

35 (J) Creates safe, orderly, and supportive learning
 36 environments;

1 (K) Holds high expectations for the students' academic
2 achievement;

3 (L) Deepens educators' content knowledge;

4 (M) Provides educators with research-based instructional
5 strategies to assist students in meeting rigorous academic standards;

6 (N) Prepares educators to use various types of classroom
7 assessments appropriately; and

8 (O) Provides educators with knowledge and skills to
9 appropriately involve families and other stakeholders in education.

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11 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
12 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Arkansas Supreme Court in
13 Lake View School District No. 25 v. Huckabee, 351 Ark. 31 (2002) declared the
14 current system of education to be unconstitutional because it is both
15 inequitable and inadequate; that the Arkansas Supreme Court determined that
16 the state has an absolute duty to provide an equal opportunity to an adequate
17 education; that requiring each school district to provide teachers with
18 quality professional development will promote and enhance learning
19 opportunities for students; and that this act should become effective
20 immediately in order for school districts to implement professional
21 development plans. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act
22 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health,
23 and safety shall become effective on:

24 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

25 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
26 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
27 bill; or

28 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
29 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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32 APPROVED: 2/6/2004