

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 62

4  
5 By: Senator Irvin  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
9 CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO READ ACT; AND FOR OTHER  
10 PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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14 TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE  
15 CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO READ ACT.  
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18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-429(d), concerning the Right to Read  
21 Act, is amended to read as follows:

22 (d)(1) By the beginning of the ~~2021-2022~~ 2023-2024 school year:

23 (A)(i) All teachers employed in a classroom teaching  
24 position that requires ~~an elementary education (K-6) license or special~~  
25 ~~education (K-12) license~~ a license to teach elementary students in grades  
26 kindergarten through six (K-6) or a license to teach special education for  
27 students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) shall demonstrate  
28 proficiency in knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction,  
29 ~~and.~~

30 (ii) A teacher described in subdivision (d)(1)(A)(i)  
31 of this section who has not demonstrated proficiency by the 2023-2024 school  
32 year shall be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency by being  
33 placed in an intensive support status under § 6-17-2807 for a period of time  
34 specified by the teacher's evaluator in the professional growth plan for the  
35 teacher; and

36 (B) All other teachers shall demonstrate awareness in



1 knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction.

2 (2) All teachers who begin employment in the ~~2021-2022~~ 2023-2024  
3 school year and each following school year ~~thereafter~~ shall demonstrate  
4 proficiency or awareness in knowledge and practices ~~in~~ of scientific reading  
5 instruction as is applicable to their teaching position by completing the  
6 prescribed proficiency or awareness in knowledge and practices of ~~the~~  
7 scientific reading instruction credential either:

8 (A) As a condition of licensure; or

9 (B) Within one (1) year if the teacher is:

10 (i) Already licensed; or

11 (ii) Employed under a waiver from licensure.

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