

**ARKANSAS SENATE**  
91st General Assembly - Regular Session, 2017  
**Amendment Form**

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**Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 587**

TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF TITLE 6 OF THE ARKANSAS CODE CONCERNING READING  
PROFICIENCY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS.

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**Amendment No. 2 to Senate Bill No. 587**

Amend Senate Bill No. 587 as engrossed, S3/15/17 (version: 03/15/2017 8:55:36 AM):

Delete everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following:  
"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, is amended to add an  
additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 29 – Reading Proficiency

6-15-2901. Intent.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that:

- (1) Each student's progression from one grade to another be determined, in part, upon proficiency in reading;
- (2) Policies of a board of directors of a public school district facilitate reading instruction and intervention services to address student reading needs;
- (3) Each student and his or her parent be informed of that student's reading progress; and
- (4) Each student should read at or above grade level by grade three (3).

6-15-2902. Reading intervention program.

- (a) A public school district shall offer a reading intervention program to each student in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who exhibits a reading deficiency to ensure the student can read at or above grade level by the end of grade three (3).
- (b) The reading intervention program shall be provided in addition to core reading instruction that is given to all students in the general education classroom.
- (c) The reading intervention program shall:
  - (1) Be provided to all students in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) identified as having a reading deficiency as determined by local or statewide screening assessments administered within the first thirty (30) days of school;
  - (2) Provide explicit and systematic instruction in phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension, as applicable;



(3) Monitor the reading progress of each student's reading skills throughout the school year and adjust instruction according to student needs; and

(4) Be implemented during regular school hours.

6-15-2903. Reading improvement plan.

(a) A student in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who exhibits a reading deficiency, based upon local or statewide screening assessments, shall receive an individual reading improvement plan no later than thirty (30) days after the identification of the reading deficiency.

(b) The reading improvement plan shall:

(1) Be created by the student's teacher, principal, parent, and any other pertinent school personnel; and

(2) Describe the research-based reading intervention services the student will receive to remedy the student's reading deficiency.

(c) A student under subsection (a) of this section shall receive intensive reading intervention under the reading improvement plan until the student no longer has a reading deficiency.

6-15-2904. Parent notification.

(a) A public school district shall notify in writing the parent of a student in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who exhibits at any time during the school year a reading deficiency no later than fifteen (15) days after the identification of the reading deficiency.

(b) The written notification under subsection (a) of this section shall include:

(1) A statement that the student has been identified as having a reading deficiency and that a reading improvement plan will be developed by the student's teacher, principal, parent, and any other pertinent school personnel;

(2) A description of the current services that are provided to the student;

(3) A description of the proposed research-based reading interventions and supplemental instructional services and supports that will be provided to the student that are designed to remedy the identified areas of reading deficiency;

(4) Notification that the parent will be informed in writing of the student's progress in reading at grade level on at least a quarterly basis;

(5) Strategies for parents to use at home to help the student succeed in reading;

(6) A statement that if the student's reading deficiency is not corrected by the end of grade three (3), the child may not be promoted to grade four (4);

(7) A statement that while the statewide reading assessment is the initial determinate for promotion, it is not the sole determiner at the end of grade three (3); and

(8) A statement that students are provided with a test-based student portfolio option and an alternative reading assessment option to demonstrate sufficient reading skills for promotion to grade four (4).

6-15-2905. Summer reading camp.

(a) A public school district shall provide summer reading camps to all students in grade three (3) who scored at the lowest achievement level on the grade three (3) statewide reading assessment.

(b) A summer reading camp shall:

(1) Be staffed with highly effective teachers of reading as demonstrated by student reading performance data and teacher performance evaluations; and

(2) Include, at a minimum, seventy (70) hours of instructional time in reading.

(c) The highly effective teacher of reading shall provide explicit and systematic reading intervention services and supports to correct the identified areas of reading deficiency of the students in the summer reading camp.

(d) If funding is available, a school district shall extend summer reading camp to students in grade one (1) and grade two (2) who are identified as having a reading deficiency.

6-15-2906. Department of Education responsibilities.

(a)(1) The Department of Education shall develop a uniform format for public school districts to report the information required under this subchapter.

(2) The uniform format shall be:

(A) Developed with input from public school districts; and

(B) Provided to each public school district no later than June 1 of each year.

(b) The department shall annually compile the information required along with state-level summary information and report the information by October 1 of each year to the:

(1) State Board of Education;

(2) Governor;

(3) President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(4) Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(5) Public by publishing the information on the website of the department.

(c) The department shall provide technical assistance to aid public school districts in implementing this subchapter.

6-15-2907. Rules.

The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules to implement and enforce this subchapter."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and \_\_\_\_\_

By: Senator A. Clark

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Secretary