

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE TEACHER EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION, AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE AND THE GENERAL EDUCATION DIVISION OF THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STUDY THE NEED FOR EXPANDING REQUIRED INSTRUCTION IN THE TEACHING OF READING IN REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF TEACHERS AT THE ELEMENTARY LEVEL.

WHEREAS, reading ability is the fundamental skill necessary for students to learn all other skills and subject matter in the public schools and institutions of higher education in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, the ability to read well is necessary for Arkansans to successfully compete for jobs; and

WHEREAS, the economic development of the State depends on the educational level of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, only one course in the teaching of reading is the minimum requirement for certification of teachers of kindergarten and elementary school students; and

WHEREAS, the Teacher Education, Certification, and Evaluation Committee and the General Education Division of the Arkansas Department of Education are charged by law with addressing the requirements for teacher certification in Arkansas,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Teacher Education, Certification, and Evaluation Committee and the General Education Division of the Arkansas Department of Education are requested to undertake careful study of the need to increase minimum certification requirements in the teaching of reading for all individuals certified to teach kindergarten and elementary school students and to report the results of their study to the Joint Interim Education Committee of the Arkansas General Assembly by November 1, 1988.