

1 State of Arkansas  
2 80th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1995

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2075

4 By: Representatives Argue, Fletcher, Bisbee and Simon

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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT REQUIRING THE GENERAL EDUCATION DIVISION OF THE  
9 STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF  
10 EXISTING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN  
11 ARKANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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## Subtitle

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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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SECTION 1. The General Assembly hereby finds and determines that a greater emphasis on professional development for educators has been brought about by the rapid pace of expanding knowledge in curricular areas, societal changes, and the escalating use of technology by business and industry. More requirements are being placed on teachers and administrators to lead their districts and schools toward positive changes that will result in optimal achievement by all students, and professional development is critical to all of these issues.

SECTION 2. (a) The General Education Division of the State Department of Education shall conduct a comprehensive study of existing professional development opportunities for employees and board members of the public school districts in Arkansas.

(b)(1) A report of such comprehensive study shall be prepared and presented to the Governor, the Joint Interim Committee on Education, and the

1 State Board of Education by September 1, 1997.

2 (2) The report shall include, but not be limited to, the  
3 following information:

4 (A) Specific categories of professional development  
5 opportunities provided for employees and board members of public school  
6 districts;

7 (B) Sources of time and funding used for professional  
8 development;

9 (C) Systems of accountability used within school districts  
10 that are relative to professional development;

11 (D) Human resources used in conducting or facilitating  
12 professional development activities;

13 (E) Statistics demonstrating to what extent school  
14 districts have put in place well-defined professional development plans to  
15 support systematic development and implementation of school improvement.

16 (c) The Director of the General Education Division of the State  
17 Department of Education shall convene a group of educational professionals  
18 from throughout the state to conduct the comprehensive study, consisting of  
19 representatives from the following groups:

20 (1) School administrators;

21 (2) Teachers;

22 (3) Members of local school boards;

23 (4) Administrators, faculty, and board members of institutions  
24 of higher education;

25 (5) Directors and staff of education service cooperatives; and

26 (6) Various professional educators' organizations.

27 (d) The results of the comprehensive study shall be utilized in  
28 defining the future role of the State Department of Education in facilitating  
29 professional development in the public schools.

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31 SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent  
32 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas  
33 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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35 SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to

1 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
2 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
3 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
4 act are declared to be severable.

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6 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
7 hereby repealed.

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*/s/Rep. Argue, et al*

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***As Engrossed: 3/17/95***

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