

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4  
5 By: Senator J. Bookout  
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7

As Engrossed: S2/17/05  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 197

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO ALLOW ANY CERTIFIED PERSONNEL TO EARN  
10 UP TO TWELVE (12) HOURS OF PROFESSIONAL  
11 DEVELOPMENT CREDIT FOR TIME REQUIRED AT THE  
12 BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR TO PLAN AND PREPARE  
13 A CURRICULUM AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL FOR  
14 HIS OR HER ASSIGNED CLASSES; TO ALLOW CERTIFIED  
15 PERSONNEL TO EARN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT  
16 FOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY RELATED TO STUDENT  
17 PERFORMANCE THAT ARE REQUIRED AND PERFORMED  
18 OUTSIDE REGULAR SCHOOL DAY; AND FOR OTHER  
19 PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

21 AN ACT TO ALLOW ANY CERTIFIED PERSONNEL  
22 TO EARN UP TO TWELVE (12) HOURS OF  
23 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT.  
24

25  
26  
27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 7 is amended  
30 to add an additional section to read as follows:

31 6-17-705. Professional development credit.

32 (a)(1) Up to twelve (12) hours of professional development credit may  
33 be earned by any certified personnel for time required at the beginning of  
34 each school year to plan and prepare a curriculum and other instructional  
35 material for his or her assigned classes, if the time is:

36 (A) Spent in his or her classroom, office, or media center



1 at the public school; and

2 (B) Prior to the first student-teacher interaction day of  
3 the school year, but no school district shall require certified personnel to  
4 work additional days that are not included in his or her contract for the  
5 professional development credit provided under this section.

6 (2) A school district superintendent or building level principal  
7 may allow certified personnel to earn professional development credit for  
8 time required to prepare student improvement plans, individual education  
9 plans, or other required duties that are not performed during the regular  
10 school day and are directly related to student academic progress.

11 (b) Certified personnel shall earn one (1) hour of professional  
12 development credit for each one (1) hour of planning and preparation that  
13 meets the requirements of subdivision (a)(1) of this section or student  
14 progress related activities that meets the requirements of subdivision (a)(2)  
15 of this section.

16 (c) The State Board of Education shall promulgate the rules necessary  
17 for the proper implementation of this section.

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19 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
20 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that school districts are currently  
21 entering into contracts for professional development programs to be offered  
22 during the 2005-2006 school year; that school districts need sufficient time  
23 to plan and schedule professional development programs for certified  
24 personnel; and that this act is immediately necessary because a delay in its  
25 enactment may cause some districts to enter into unnecessary contracts for  
26 professional development programs. Therefore, an emergency is declared to  
27 exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the  
28 public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

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

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

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

35  
36 /s/ J. Bookout