

State of Arkansas  
87th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2009

*As Engrossed: H3/25/09*

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1999

By: Representative Lea

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING TEACHER  
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND ARKANSAS LAW CONCERNING  
TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-702(a)(1)(B), concerning staff  
development sessions, is amended to read as follows:

(B) Certified personnel may count up to two (2) days of  
~~five and one half (5 1/2)~~ six (6) hours each of attendance at instructional  
professional development sessions conducted by bona fide professional  
organizations toward fulfillment of the ~~five (5)~~ ten (10) days of staff  
development required by the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public  
Schools and School Districts, provided the sessions have been certified by  
the Department of Education.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-705 is amended to read as follows:  
6-17-705. Professional development credit.

(a) Up to twelve (12) hours of professional development credit may be  
earned by certified personnel for time required at the beginning of each  
school year to plan and prepare a curriculum and other instructional material  
for their assigned classes if the time is:

(1) Spent in their classrooms, offices, or media centers at the



1 public school; and

2 (2) ~~Prior to~~ Before the first student-teacher interaction day of  
3 the school year, but ~~no~~ a school district shall not require certified  
4 personnel to work additional days that are not included in their contracts  
5 unless the certified personnel are paid their daily rate of pay.

6 (b) Certified personnel shall earn one (1) hour of professional  
7 development credit for each hour of planning and preparation that meets the  
8 requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

9 (c) Certified personnel may earn the twelve (12) hours of professional  
10 development credit required under subsection (a) of this section through  
11 online professional development credit approved by the Department of  
12 Education and related to the:

13 (1) School district's Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement  
14 Plan; or

15 (2) Teacher's professional growth plan.

16 (d)(1) If illness of a teacher or a teacher's immediate family under §  
17 6-17-1202 prevents a teacher from obtaining the required professional  
18 development hours, the teacher shall be allowed to make up the hours missed  
19 during the:

20 (A) Remainder of the current school year; or

21 (B) Succeeding school year.

22 (2) The teacher may earn the professional development hours  
23 through online professional development.

24 ~~(e)~~(e) The State Board of Education shall promulgate the rules  
25 necessary for the proper implementation of this section.

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27 /s/ Lea  
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