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4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1262

5 By: Representatives Eubanks, Branscum, Catlett, Clemmer, C. Douglas, Farrer, Gillam, Gossage,
6 Hickerson, Lampkin, Lenderman, Vines
7 By: Senators J. English, Holland, J. Key
8

For An Act To Be Entitled

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10 AN ACT TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL
11 EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT; TO DECLARE AN
12 EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
13
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Subtitle

15
16 TO AMEND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC
17 SCHOOL EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT;
18 AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
22

23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-5-405(b) and (c), concerning professional
24 development for higher education awareness, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b) ~~Beginning with the 2009 calendar year, professional~~ Professional
26 development on the availability of, eligibility requirements for, and the
27 process of applying for state-supported student financial assistance shall be
28 required for:

29 (1) All public school superintendents and assistant
30 superintendents; and

31 (2) The following licensed personnel at a public school where
32 students are enrolled in grade seven through grade twelve (7-12):

33 (A) Principals;

34 (B) Assistant principals; and

35 (C) Guidance counselors.

36 (c)(1) The first course shall be a three-hour course to be taken



1 ~~before within calendar year 2009,~~ or within the first year of employment:

2 (A) As a public school superintendent;

3 (B) As a public school assistant superintendent; or

4 (C) In one (1) of the following positions for grades seven
 5 through twelve (7-12):

6 (i) Principal;

7 (ii) Assistant principal; or

8 (iii) Guidance counselor.

9 (2) After the first three-hour course is completed, a one-hour
 10 course ~~is required to~~ shall be completed ~~annually~~ according to the
 11 professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

13 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-15-1703 is amended to read as follows:

14 6-15-1703. Professional development.

15 (a) The State Board of Education's Standards for Accreditation of
 16 Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts shall require the following
 17 professional development hours according to the professional development
 18 schedule under § 6-17-709:

19 (1) ~~Two (2) or more~~ Two (2) hours of professional development as part of
 20 the ~~annual~~ minimum number of hours of professional development required for
 21 teachers, designed to enhance understanding of effective parental involvement
 22 strategies; and

23 (2) ~~Three (3) or more~~ Two (2) hours of professional development
 24 as part of the ~~annual~~ minimum number of hours of professional development
 25 required for administrators, designed to enhance understanding of:

26 (A) Effective parent involvement strategies; and

27 (B) The importance of administrative leadership in setting
 28 expectations and creating a climate conducive to parental participation.

29 ~~(b) The Department of Education shall provide the professional~~
 30 ~~development required under this section.~~

31 ~~(c)~~ (b) Each A school district shall provide training at least annually
 32 for volunteers who assist in an instructional program for parents.

34 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-703 is amended to read as follows:

35 6-17-703. Arkansas history in-service training.

36 (a) ~~Every school district in this state~~ A school district shall

1 provide two (2) hours of substantive and meaningful ~~in-service training~~
 2 professional development in Arkansas history ~~each school year~~ for
 3 its teachers who provide instruction in Arkansas history according to the
 4 professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

5 (b) The school district may provide the professional development:

6 (1) ~~contract~~ By contracting with an education service cooperative
 7 ~~to provide the training; or~~

8 (2) By using the Arkansas Online Professional Development
 9 Initiative under § 6-17-707.

10 (c) The ~~in-service training~~ professional development under this
 11 section shall count toward satisfaction of requirements for professional
 12 development in the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and
 13 School Districts.

14
 15 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(a), concerning a professional
 16 development plan, is amended to read as follows:

17 (a) As used in this section, “professional development” means a set of
 18 ~~coordinated set of~~ planned learning activities for teachers, administrators,
 19 and ~~classified nonlicensed school~~ employees that ~~are standards-based and~~
 20 ~~continuous;~~

21 (1) Is part of the minimum number of professional development
 22 hours required by law or by the Department of Education;

23 (2) Improves the knowledge, skills, and effectiveness of
 24 teachers;

25 (3) Addresses the knowledge and skills of administrators and
 26 paraprofessionals concerning effective instructional strategies, methods, and
 27 skills;

28 (4) Leads to improved student academic achievement;

29 (5) Is research-based and standards-based; and

30 (6) Is any professional development approved by the department.

31
 32 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(c)(1), concerning a professional
 33 development plan, is amended to read as follows:

34 (c)(1) ~~Beginning with school year 2004-2005, each~~ Annually, each
 35 school district shall prepare a professional development plan.

1 SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-17-704(e), concerning a professional
2 development plan, is amended to read as follows:

3 ~~(e)(1) The professional development offerings may meet the objectives~~
4 ~~of subdivision (e)(2) of this section developed by the National Staff~~
5 ~~Development Council and shall comply with the rules of the State Board of~~
6 ~~Education governing professional development.~~

7 ~~(2) Professional development that improves the learning of all~~
8 ~~students;~~

9 ~~(A) Requires skillful school and school district leaders~~
10 ~~who guide continuous instructional improvement;~~

11 ~~(B) Organizes educators into learning communities whose~~
12 ~~goals are aligned with those of the school and school district;~~

13 ~~(C) Provides resources to support educator learning and~~
14 ~~collaboration;~~

15 ~~(D) Uses disaggregated student data to determine educator~~
16 ~~learning priorities, monitor progress, and help sustain continuous~~
17 ~~improvements;~~

18 ~~(E) Uses multiple sources of information to guide educator~~
19 ~~improvement and demonstrate its impact;~~

20 ~~(F) Prepares educators to apply research to decision~~
21 ~~making;~~

22 ~~(G) Uses learning strategies appropriate to the intended~~
23 ~~goal;~~

24 ~~(H) Applies knowledge about human learning and change;~~

25 ~~(I) Prepares educators to understand and appreciate all~~
26 ~~students;~~

27 ~~(J) Creates safe, orderly, and supportive learning~~
28 ~~environments;~~

29 ~~(K) Holds high expectations for the students' academic~~
30 ~~achievement;~~

31 ~~(L) Deepens educators' content knowledge;~~

32 ~~(M) Provides educators with research-based instructional~~
33 ~~strategies to assist students in meeting rigorous academic standards;~~

34 ~~(N) Prepares educators to use various types of classroom~~
35 ~~assessments appropriately;~~

36 ~~(O) Provides educators with knowledge and skills to~~

1 ~~appropriately involve families and other stakeholders in education;~~
 2 ~~(P) Provides educators with knowledge and skills needed to~~
 3 ~~teach students with disabilities, including without limitation autism; and~~
 4 ~~(Q) Provides educators with knowledge and skills needed to~~
 5 ~~teach culturally and linguistically diverse students.~~

6 (e) The professional development under this section:

7 (1) Shall comply with the Arkansas Department of Education Rules
 8 Governing Professional Development; and

9 (2) May provide educators with knowledge and skills needed to
 10 teach:

11 (A) Students with disabilities, including without
 12 limitation autism; and

13 (B) Culturally and linguistically diverse students.

14
 15 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code §6-17-708 is amended to read as follows:

16 6-17-708. Teen suicide awareness and prevention in-service training.

17 (a)(1) ~~Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, the~~ The Department of
 18 Education shall require two (2) hours of ~~in-service training~~ professional
 19 development in teen suicide awareness and prevention ~~one (1) time every five~~
 20 ~~(5) school years~~ for licensed public school personnel according to the
 21 professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

22 (2) The ~~in-service training~~ professional development under this
 23 section may be accomplished through self-review of suitable suicide
 24 prevention materials approved by the department.

25 (b) The ~~in-service training~~ professional development under this
 26 section shall count toward the satisfaction of requirements for professional
 27 development in the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and
 28 School Districts and for licensure requirements for licensed personnel.

29
 30 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 7, is amended
 31 to add an additional section to read as follows:

32 6-17-709. Professional development schedule.

33 (a) Beginning with the 2013-2014 school year, a school district or an
 34 open-enrollment public charter school shall make available to the appropriate
 35 licensed personnel the following professional development:

36 (1) In the 2013-2014 school year and every fourth school year

1 thereafter:

2 (A) The one (1) hour of higher education scholarship
3 awareness professional development required under § 6-5-405; and

4 (B) The professional development for mandated reporters
5 and licensed elementary and secondary public school personnel required under
6 § 6-61-133;

7 (2) In the 2014-2015 school year and every fourth school year
8 thereafter, the parental involvement professional development under § 6-15-
9 1703;

10 (3) In the 2015-2016 school year and every fourth school year
11 thereafter, the teen suicide awareness and prevention professional
12 development required under § 6-17-708; and

13 (4) In the 2016-2017 school year and every fourth school year
14 thereafter, the Arkansas history professional development required under § 6-
15 17-703.

16 (b)(1) Two (2) hours of the professional development required by
17 subsection (a) of this section shall be counted in one (1) school year toward
18 the minimum number of hours of professional development required for licensed
19 educators under the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing
20 Professional Development.

21 (2) If additional hours are obtained by a licensed educator, the
22 school district may count those hours as part of the minimum number of hours
23 of professional development required for licensed educators under the
24 Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Professional Development.

25 (c) Annually, the State Board of Education may require up to six (6)
26 hours of integrated professional development for licensed educators in
27 educational technology.

28 (d) The Department of Education shall establish the curriculum under
29 this section in collaboration with educational agencies and associations
30 including without limitation the:

31 (1) Department of Higher Education;

32 (2) Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators;

33 (3) Arkansas Education Association;

34 (4) Arkansas School Boards Association; and

35 (5) Arkansas Association for Supervision and Curriculum
36 Development.

1 (e)(1) The professional development under this subsection shall not
 2 be provided by a school district but shall be provided by:

3 (A) The Department of Education;

4 (B) An institutions of higher education; or

5 (C) Providers approved by the Department of Education.

6 (2)(A) Before a person receives an initial building level
 7 administrator's license, the person shall successfully complete the teacher
 8 evaluation professional development program.

9 (B) A person who receives an initial building level
 10 administrator's license shall complete the certification assessment for the
 11 teacher evaluation professional development program before or after receiving
 12 the initial building level administrator's license.

13 (3)(A) The Department of Education shall not issue an initial
 14 teaching license until the applicant verifies that he or she has obtained the
 15 required professional development concerning:

16 (A) Mandated reporters under § 6-61-133;

17 (B) Parental involvement under § 6-15-1703;

18 (C) Teen suicide awareness and prevention under § 6-
 19 17-708; and

20 (D) Arkansas history under § 6-17-703.

21 (B) For a teaching license issued under the state's
 22 reciprocity provisions to an out-of-state teacher, the Department of
 23 Education shall issue a provisional license until the licensee obtains the
 24 professional development identified in subdivision (e)(3)(A) of this section.

25
 26 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 6-17-2602(2), concerning the definition of
 27 "professional development" for purposes of the lifetime teaching license, is
 28 amended to read as follows:

29 (2) "Professional development" ~~means a coordinated set of~~
 30 ~~planned, learning development activities for teachers that are standards-~~
 31 ~~based and that meet the focus areas for professional development required by~~
 32 ~~the department~~ has the same meaning as the meaning given to the term under §
 33 6-17-704; and

34
 35 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2303(15)(A), concerning the
 36 definition of "professional development" for school funding purposes, is

1 amended to read as follows:

2 (15)(A) "Professional development" ~~means a coordinated set of~~
 3 ~~planned learning activities for teachers and administrators that are~~
 4 ~~standards-based~~ has the same meaning as the meaning given to the term under §
 5 6-17-704.

6
 7 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 6-61-133(c), concerning professional
 8 development for mandated reporters and licensed elementary and secondary
 9 public school personnel, is amended to read as follows:

10 6-61-133. ~~Training~~ Professional development for ~~mandatory mandated~~
 11 reporters and licensed elementary and secondary public school personnel.

12 (a) As used in this section:

13 (1) "Child maltreatment" means the abuse, sexual abuse, neglect,
 14 sexual exploitation, or abandonment of a child under the Child Maltreatment
 15 Act, § 12-18-101 et seq.; and

16 (2) "Licensed school personnel" means a person who works with
 17 students in an elementary or secondary public school, a public charter
 18 school, a school district, or an education service cooperative for whom a
 19 license issued by the State Board of Education is a condition of employment,
 20 including without limitation a:

21 (A) School or school district administrator;

22 (B) Teacher;

23 (C) Coach for a school athletics program;

24 (D) School counselor;

25 (E) School social worker;

26 (F) School psychologist; and

27 (G) School nurse.

28 (b) For each degree program at an institution of higher education in
 29 this state that is a prerequisite for licensure or certification in a
 30 profession in which the professional is a child maltreatment mandated
 31 reporter under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., the
 32 Department of Higher Education shall coordinate with all the institutions of
 33 higher education to ensure that before receiving a degree, each graduate
 34 receives the ~~training~~ professional development identified in subdivision
 35 (d)(1) of this section.

36 (c) Licensed school personnel shall obtain the ~~training~~ professional

1 development identified in subsection (d) of this section ~~within twelve (12)~~
2 ~~months of:~~

3 (1) ~~The~~ Not more than one (1) year before the individual's
4 initial licensure; and

5 (2) ~~All subsequent renewals of the individual's license~~
6 According to the professional development schedule under § 6-17-709.

7 (d)(1) The ~~training~~ professional development required under this
8 section shall include without limitation:

9 (A) Recognizing the signs and symptoms of child
10 maltreatment;

11 (B) The legal requirements of the Child Maltreatment Act,
12 § 12-18-101 et seq., and the duties of mandated reporters under the act; and

13 (C) Methods for managing disclosures regarding child
14 victims.

15 (2) In addition to the ~~training~~ professional development
16 required under subdivision (d)(1) of this section, licensed school personnel
17 shall obtain ~~training~~ professional development in connecting a victim of
18 child maltreatment to appropriate in-school services and other agencies,
19 programs, and services needed to provide the child with the emotional and
20 educational support the child needs to continue to be successful in school.

21 (e)(1) The ~~training~~ professional development obtained by licensed
22 school personnel may be obtained as in-person or online ~~training~~ professional
23 development.

24 (2) The Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission
25 shall approve the curriculum for the ~~training~~ professional development.

26 (3) Licensed school personnel shall document completed ~~training~~
27 professional development according to the rules of the State Board of
28 Education.

29 ~~(f) Licensed school personnel may substitute for the required number~~
30 ~~of hours of staff development on parental involvement plans under § 6-15-1703~~
31 ~~an equal number of hours of training obtained under this section.~~
32

33 SECTION 12. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
34 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that it is the state's
35 constitutional obligation to provide a general, suitable, and efficient free
36 system of public schools in the state; that the professional development of

1 public school teachers and administrators is critical to the delivery of a
 2 constitutionally adequate education; and that this act is immediately
 3 necessary for school districts and educators to prepare for the professional
 4 development requirements needed for the 2013-2014 school year. Therefore, an
 5 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for
 6 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become
 7 effective on:

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

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

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

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