

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 489 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: S1/26/21 S2/24/21
A Bill

SENATE BILL 62

By: Senator Irvin

By: Representative Vaught

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO READ ACT; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND PROVISIONS OF THE ARKANSAS CODE
CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO READ ACT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-429(d), concerning the Right to Read Act, is amended to read as follows:

(d)(1) By the beginning of the ~~2021-2022~~ 2023-2024 school year:

(A)(i) All teachers employed in a classroom teaching position that requires ~~an elementary education (K-6) license or special education (K-12) license~~ a license to teach elementary students in grades kindergarten through six (K-6) or a license to teach special education for students in grades kindergarten through twelve (K-12) shall demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction; ~~and.~~

(ii) A teacher described in subdivision (d)(1)(A)(i) of this section who has not demonstrated proficiency by the 2023-2024 school year may be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate proficiency by being placed in an intensive support status under § 6-17-2807 for a period of time specified by the teacher's evaluator in the professional growth plan for the teacher; and



(B) All other teachers shall demonstrate awareness in knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction.

(2) All teachers who begin employment in the ~~2021-2022~~ 2023-2024 school year and each following school year ~~thereafter~~ shall demonstrate proficiency or awareness in knowledge and practices ~~in~~ of scientific reading instruction as is applicable to their teaching position by completing the prescribed proficiency or awareness in knowledge and practices of ~~the~~ scientific reading instruction credential either:

(A) As a condition of licensure; or

(B) Within one (1) year if the teacher is:

(i) Already licensed; or

(ii) Employed under a waiver from licensure.

/s/Irvin

APPROVED: 3/25/21