

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
First Extraordinary Session, 2013

A Bill

Call Item 4
SENATE BILL 5

By: Senators J. Dismang, J. Key, Bledsoe, Caldwell, E. Cheatham, J. English, J. Hendren, Hickey,
Holland, J. Hutchinson, K. Ingram, B. Pierce, D. Sanders

By: Representative McLean

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MODIFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHER
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO MODIFY THE REQUIREMENT FOR TEACHER
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TO DECLARE
AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-409(f)(2)(B), concerning the professional development credit for the hours of training in pedagogy for nontraditional licensure, is amended to read as follows:

(B) The twenty-four (24) hours of training in pedagogy are in addition to and not considered a part of the ~~sixty (60) hours of~~ professional development required for teachers by their employing school district or public school.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-17-705(c), concerning professional development credit for teacher preparation, is amended to read as follows:

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



(1) School district’s Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan; or

(2) Teacher’s professional learning plan under the Teacher Excellence and Support System, § 6-17-2801 et seq.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-17-1202(3), concerning the definition of "month or major portion thereof" under the Teachers’ Minimum Sick Leave Law, is amended to read as follows:

(3) “Month or major portion thereof” means twelve (12) or more working days in a calendar month, including all professional development days required by the school district that count toward the ~~annual sixty (60)~~ hours of required professional development for a teacher;

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-20-2305(b)(5)(B), concerning state categorical funding for professional development, is amended to read as follows:

(B) For the 2014-2015 school year and each school year thereafter, professional development funding shall be equal to an amount of up to ~~fifty-four dollars (\$54.00)~~ thirty-two dollars and forty cents (\$32.40) multiplied by the school district’s previous school year average daily membership.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Public School Insurance Trust Fund is inadequate to provide affordable health insurance for public school employees; changes to the funding system for public school employee health insurance is necessary to ensure a stable and affordable program of health insurance plan options; and that this act is necessary to provide additional funding for public school employee health insurance. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2014.