State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H1/25/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1170

By: Representative Tollett

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE RIGHT TO READ ACT; TO AMEND THE DATE BY WHICH TEACHERS SHALL DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY IN KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES OF SCIENTIFIC READING INSTRUCTION; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE DATE BY WHICH TEACHERS SHALL DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY IN KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICES OF SCIENTIFIC READING INSTRUCTION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-17-429(d), concerning the requirement that teachers be proficient in knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction, is amended to read as follows:

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

(A) All teachers employed in a teaching position that requires an elementary education (K-6) license or special education (K-12) license shall demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and practices of scientific reading instruction; 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 school year thereafter shall demonstrate proficiency or awareness in knowledge and practices in 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/Tollett