

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

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