

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

**Act 1185 of the Regular Session**

*As Engrossed: H2/11/05 H2/23/05 H2/28/05*

**A Bill**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005

HOUSE BILL 1461

4  
5 By: Representatives Cooper, Petrus, Walters, Dickinson, Sullivan, Everett, Jeffrey, Kenney, M. Martin,  
6 Dunn, George, Key, Medley, Thompson, Thyer, Wells, Wills, Wyatt, Berry, Bolin, Childers, Cook,  
7 Mathis, Rankin, *Norton*  
8 By: Senators Miller, J. Bookout, Glover, Higginbothom

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

9  
10  
11 AN ACT TO ALLOW A TEACHER TO EARN UP TO TWELVE  
12 (12) HOURS OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT FOR  
13 TIME REQUIRED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR  
14 TO PLAN AND PREPARE A CURRICULUM AND OTHER  
15 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL FOR HIS OR HER ASSIGNED  
16 CLASSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
17

**Subtitle**

18  
19 TO ALLOW A TEACHER TO EARN PROFESSIONAL  
20 DEVELOPMENT CREDIT FOR TIME REQUIRED AT  
21 THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR TO PLAN  
22 AND PREPARE A CURRICULUM AND OTHER  
23 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL FOR HIS OR HER  
24 ASSIGNED CLASSES.  
25  
26  
27

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

29  
30 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 17, Subchapter 7 is amended  
31 to add an additional section to read as follows:

32 6-17-705. Professional development credit.

33 (a) Up to twelve (12) hours of professional development credit may be  
34 earned by certified personnel for time required at the beginning of each  
35 school year to plan and prepare a curriculum and other instructional material



1 for their assigned classes, if the time is:

2 (1) Spent in his or her classroom, office, or media center at  
3 the public school; and

4 (2) Prior to the first student-teacher interaction day of the  
5 school year, but no school district shall require certified personnel to work  
6 additional days that are not included in their contract unless the certified  
7 personnel is paid their daily rate of pay.

8 (b) Certified personnel shall earn one (1) hour of professional  
9 development credit for each hour of planning and preparation that meets the  
10 requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

11 (c) The State Board of Education shall promulgate the rules necessary  
12 for the proper implementation of this section.

13  
14 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
15 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that school districts are currently  
16 entering into contracts for the professional development programs to be  
17 offered during the 2005-2006 school year; that school districts need  
18 sufficient time to plan and schedule professional development programs for  
19 certified personnel; and that this act is immediately necessary because a  
20 delay in its enactment may cause some districts to enter into unnecessary  
21 contracts for professional development programs. Therefore, an emergency is  
22 declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the  
23 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective  
24 on:

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

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

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

31  
32 /s/ Cooper, et al

33  
34  
35 APPROVED: 3/24/2005

1