

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 2318 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005  
4

As Engrossed: H3/10/05 H3/18/05

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2489

5 By: Representatives Pickett, Dickinson, Dunn, Elliott, J. Johnson, Scroggin, Wills

6 By: Senator Bryles  
7  
8

9 For An Act To Be Entitled

10 THE ARKANSAS ONLINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
11 INITIATIVE.  
12

13 Subtitle

14 THE ARKANSAS ONLINE PROFESSIONAL  
15 DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.  
16  
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
19

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

22 6-17-705. Statewide professional development program.

23 (a) There is created the Arkansas Online Professional Development  
24 Initiative.

25 (b) Under the Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative, the  
26 Director of the Department of Education shall identify teacher professional  
27 development needs in the state and prioritize the needs based on the areas of  
28 professional development most needed to improve academic and teaching  
29 knowledge and skills of certified personnel.

30 (c) Based on the needs and priorities identified in the assessment  
31 under subsection (b) of this section, the Director of the Department of  
32 Education shall work with the Director of the Educational Television Division  
33 of the Department of Education and local school districts to develop a  
34 statewide online professional development program that includes quality  
35 professional development courses that:



1           (1) Are aligned to the required focus areas identified in the  
2 State Board of Education rules governing professional development and the  
3 Arkansas Comprehensive, Testing, Assessment, and Accountability Program;

4           (2) Are aligned with the clear, specific, and challenging  
5 academic content areas as established by the Department of Education as  
6 required under § 6-15-404;

7           (3) Are aligned with the state curriculum frameworks established  
8 by the Department of Education for each class level or subject area included  
9 in the respective professional development programs;

10          (4) Are researched-based and available from sources with  
11 expertise in technology-delivered professional development courses;

12          (5) Are consistent with the Southern Regional Education Board  
13 Multi-State Online Professional Development Standards in existence on January  
14 1, 2005;

15          (6) Focus on improving student academic achievement by improving  
16 a teacher's academic and teaching knowledge and skills; and

17          (7) Include an assessment at the end of the program designed to  
18 measure each certified person's level of understanding and ability to  
19 implement or apply the information presented in the program.

20          (d)(1)(A) The Arkansas Educational Television Network shall support  
21 the delivery of the online professional development courses developed as part  
22 of the Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative to teachers and  
23 administrators in each school in each school district in the state via the  
24 Internet.

25                 (B) In addition to the online courses developed as part of  
26 the Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative, the Arkansas  
27 Educational Television Network may continue to deliver professional  
28 development by broadcast, compressed, satellite, and face-to-face methods.

29                 (2) The online professional development courses supported by the  
30 Arkansas Educational Television Network or other providers shall include  
31 online registration, course evaluation, and attendance and completion  
32 documents.

33                 (3) Any provider of technology-delivered professional  
34 development under the Arkansas Online Professional Development Initiative  
35 shall demonstrate an ability to successfully deliver technology-delivered  
36 products and services.



1

*APPROVED: 4/14/2005*