

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2025 REGULAR SESSION

ENGROSSED

Committee Substitute

for

House Bill 2143

By Delegates Statler, Ellington, and Toney

[Introduced February 12, 2025; Referred
to the Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18A-3-13, relating to requiring elementary school teachers to receive an
3 endorsement in the science of reading.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**ARTICLE 3. TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, LICENSING, PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT.**

§18A-3-13. Endorsement in the science of reading for elementary school teachers.

1 Beginning not later than the 2026-2027 school year, each Kindergarten through Grade 5
2 public school teacher and public charter school teacher providing literacy instruction shall be
3 trained using high quality professional learning that incorporates ongoing, intensive training in the
4 science of reading that includes classroom application activities and live sessions spanning
5 multiple school years as approved and provided through the West Virginia Department of
6 Education. Currently employed educators in Kindergarten through Grade 5 providing literacy
7 instruction in West Virginia shall enroll in the approved professional learning no later than the
8 2027-2028 school year. Newly employed teachers providing literacy instruction in Kindergarten
9 through Grade 5 shall enroll in their first year of employment. Educators who have successfully
10 completed the approved training shall submit an application for the Science of Reading
11 endorsement free of charge. The State Board may provide accommodations for those counties
12 whose educators are in the process of obtaining this endorsement. Public charter school teachers
13 may choose to participate in the requirements set forth in this section.