



ROSENSTEIN, FIST & RINGOLD

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## RED BANNER UPDATE

**Date:** May 30, 2023

**Re:** SB1118

**Signed:** May 25, 2023

**Effective:** July 1, 2023

**Topic:** **Literacy Instructional Team**

**Summary:** This bill creates a new law (70 O.S. § 1210.508H) regarding a three-year pilot program through which the OSDE will employ a literacy instructional team to support school districts by providing technical assistance for literacy instruction, dyslexia and related disorders, and by serving as a primary source of information and support for schools in addressing needs of student struggling with these issues.

The literacy instruction team members will be placed regionally across the state and will assist general and special education teachers in recognizing educational needs to improve literacy outcomes for all students. The team will also focus on increasing professional awareness and instructional competencies to meet the education needs of students. The OSDE will prioritize supports and interventions including enrollment in reading trainings and professional development for schools which have the highest percentage of students not demonstrating sufficient reading skills as established by the OSBE.

The new act sets forth the qualifications required for prospective team members. The team will include 5 regional literacy leads and a minimum of 10 literacy specialists. The OSDE will submit a report to the Governor and legislative members by December 31, 2026 regarding the outcome of the pilot program.

For more information on this Act, please visit the firm's website to view the signed Act.

Legal counsel does not anticipate creating a new policy or amending any existing policy in response to this legislation.