

# Study Committee on Dyslexia Screening

**PURPOSE:** To: (1) examine and make recommendations to the Department of Education regarding dyslexia screening, intervention and delivery of supports for pupils identified as having indicators of dyslexia, including developing resource materials, professional development activities and funding for pupils identified as having indicators of dyslexia; (2) develop recommendations and resource materials that meet all of the following: (a) identify valid and reliable screening and evaluation assessments and protocols that can be used and the appropriate personnel to administer such screening in order to identify pupils with indicators of dyslexia as part of an ongoing reading progress monitoring system, a multitiered system of supports and special education eligibility determinations in schools; (b) recommend structured literacy instruction that is systematic, explicit, multisensory and evidence-based to meet the needs of pupils identified as having indicators of dyslexia for use in all public schools in this State; (c) recommend intervention systems, including effective dyslexia intervention programs, to address dyslexia or characteristics of dyslexia for use by schools in multitiered systems of support and for services as appropriate for pupils who are eligible for special education; (d) develop and implement preservice and in-service professional development activities to address dyslexia identification and intervention, including using accessible print materials and assistive technology, within degree programs such as education, reading, special education, speech-language pathology and psychology; (3) review teacher certification and professional development requirements as they relate to the needs of pupils with dyslexia; (4) examine the barriers to accurate information on the prevalence of pupils with dyslexia across the state and recommend a process for accurate reporting of demographic data; (5) study and evaluate current practices for diagnosing, treating and educating pupils with dyslexia in this State; and (6) examine how current laws and regulations affect pupils with dyslexia. On or before December 1, 2019, the Study Committee shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and shall provide a copy of this report to the Secretary of State.

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

House Three members of the House of Representatives, two members of the majority party and one member of the minority party, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

**Frank Carroll, Jennifer Pawlik, Thomas "T.J." Shope Jr. (Co-Chair)**

Senate Three members of the Senate, two members of the majority party and one member of the minority party, appointed by the President of the Senate:

**Sylvia Allen, Lela Alston, Paul Boyer (Chair)**

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## Other

One charter school representative, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

**Mr. Thomas Doebler**

One speech-language pathologist with training and experience in early literacy development, including structured literacy instruction that is systematic, explicit, multisensory and evidence based, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

**Ms. Stacy Fretheim, Wellington Alexander Center**

One parent of a pupil who has been diagnosed with dyslexia and who is enrolled in a public school in this State, appointed by the President of the Senate:

**Ms. Meriah Houser**

One resident of this State who is a member of an international organization on dyslexia, appointed by the President of the Senate:

**Ms. Becky Keller**

One reading specialist, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

**Dr. Jennifer Kirkpatrick, University of Arizona (1/15/2020)**

One employee of the Department of Education, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

**Mr. Sean Ross, Arizona Department of Education**

The Superintendent of a school district in this State or the Superintendent's designee, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction:

**Dr. Jan Vesely, Superintendent, Kyrene School District**

Notes: The President of the Senate shall designate one of the members as the chairperson of the Study Committee.

The Senate shall provide staff assistance to the Study Committee as directed by the President of the Senate. The Study Committee on Dyslexia Screening, Intervention and Funding for Pupils Identified as Having Indicators of Dyslexia shall meet as often as the members deem necessary.

CONTACT: Jeffrey Ong, Senate Research Staff, Chase Houser, House Research Staff

REPORT DATE: None

EXPIRATION DATE: 01/15/20

STATUTORY CITE: Laws 2019, Chapter 198