
SENATE BILL 5349

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Kastama, McAuliffe, Weinstein, Haugen, Berkey, Rasmussen, Hargrove, Kohl-Welles, Franklin, Regala, Shin, Fraser, Jacobsen and Kline

Read first time 01/21/2005. Referred to Committee on Early Learning, K-12 & Higher Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to reading instruction; adding a new section to
2 chapter 28A.630 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 44.28 RCW;
3 creating a new section; providing expiration dates; and declaring an
4 emergency.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that research
7 demonstrates that individuals with dyslexia process information in
8 different areas of their brains than do nondyslexics. Current studies
9 suggest that fifteen to twenty percent of the population has a reading
10 disability. Of those, eighty-five percent have dsylexia. The
11 legislature finds that with proper diagnosis, appropriate instruction,
12 hard work, and support from family, teachers, and the community,
13 individuals who are dyslexic can succeed in school and life. The
14 legislature further finds that early identification and treatment is
15 the key to helping dyslexics achieve.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.630
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) The dyslexia reading instruction pilot program is created. The

1 purpose of the program is to improve instructional methods for students
2 with dyslexia. The superintendent of public instruction shall
3 administer the program in up to five school districts, to the extent
4 funds are available. School districts shall be selected to participate
5 in the program based upon research-supported assessment and treatment.
6 The program shall include evaluation components. The program shall
7 also focus on writing and speaking skills. Each program shall also
8 focus on early identification of students with dyslexia.

9 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall conduct an
10 evaluation of the pilot programs. Based upon the evaluation, the
11 superintendent of public instruction shall provide information to
12 educators throughout the state on effective practices in helping
13 students with dyslexia.

14 (3) This section expires June 30, 2010.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 44.28 RCW
16 to read as follows:

17 (1) The joint legislative audit and review committee, to the extent
18 funds are available, shall conduct a study on the effectiveness of the
19 identification of students with dyslexia and the effectiveness of the
20 educational services received by students with dyslexia.

21 (2) This section expires June 30, 2010.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
23 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
24 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
25 immediately.

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