

DRAFT

SUMMARY

Prescribes requirements for screening tests related to dyslexia. Directs Department of Education to develop guidance regarding best practices related to dyslexia intervention. Directs department to submit to interim committees of Legislative Assembly report and recommendations for legislation related to screening and instructional support.

Takes effect July 1, 2018.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to dyslexia; creating new provisions; amending ORS 326.726; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 326.726, as amended by section 4, chapter 790, Oregon Laws 2015, is amended to read:

326.726. (1) The Department of Education shall designate a dyslexia specialist for the department to provide school districts with support and resources that are necessary to:

(a) Assist students with dyslexia and their families; and

(b) Comply with the requirements of this section.

[(2) The department shall annually develop a list of training opportunities related to dyslexia that satisfy the requirements described in subsection (3) of this section. The list must:]

[(a) Be developed in collaboration with the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission to ensure that the training opportunities also satisfy professional development requirements; and]

[(b) Include at least one opportunity that is provided entirely online.]

1 **(2) Each school district shall ensure that at least one kindergarten**
2 **through grade five teacher in each kindergarten through grade five**
3 **school has received training related to dyslexia. The training must**
4 **comply with the requirements described in subsection (3) of this sec-**
5 **tion.**

6 (3) For the purpose of **subsection (2) of this section**, a training oppor-
7 tunity related to dyslexia must:

8 (a) Comply with the knowledge and practice standards of an international
9 organization on dyslexia;

10 (b) Enable the teacher to understand and recognize dyslexia; and

11 (c) Enable the teacher to implement instruction that is systematic, ex-
12 plicit and evidence-based to meet the educational needs of students with
13 dyslexia.

14 *[(4) Each school district shall ensure that at least one kindergarten through*
15 *grade five teacher in each kindergarten through grade five school has received*
16 *training related to dyslexia. The training must comply with the requirements*
17 *described in subsection (3) of this section.]*

18 **(4) The department shall annually develop a list of training oppor-**
19 **tunities related to dyslexia that satisfy the requirements described in**
20 **subsection (3) of this section. The list must:**

21 **(a) Be developed in collaboration with the Teacher Standards and**
22 **Practices Commission to ensure that the training opportunities also**
23 **satisfy professional development requirements; and**

24 **(b) Include at least one opportunity that is provided entirely online.**

25 **(5) Each school district shall ensure that every student is screened**
26 **for risk factors of dyslexia using a screening test identified by the de-**
27 **partment when the student is in:**

28 **(a) Kindergarten, if the student first enrolls at a public school in**
29 **this state for kindergarten; or**

30 **(b) First grade, if the student first enrolls in a public school in this**
31 **state for first grade.**

1 **(6) For the purpose of subsection (5) of this section, the department**
2 **shall:**

3 **(a) Identify screening tests that are cost effective. The tests may**
4 **take into account the following factors:**

5 **(A) Phonological awareness;**

6 **(B) Rapid naming skills;**

7 **(C) The correspondence between sounds and letters; and**

8 **(D) Family history of difficulty in learning to read, if the student**
9 **shows risk factors for reading difficulties.**

10 **(b) Provide guidance for notifications to be sent by school districts**
11 **to parents of students who are identified as having risk factors for**
12 **reading difficulties.**

13 **(7) The department shall develop guidance regarding best practices**
14 **for assisting students who are identified as being at risk for dyslexia.**
15 **The department shall make the guidance available to school districts.**

16 [(5)(a)] **(8)(a) A school district that does not comply with the require-**
17 **ments of subsection (2) of this section and that does not secure a waiver**
18 **from the department within the time required by the State Board of Educa-**
19 **tion by rule is considered nonstandard under ORS 327.103.**

20 **(b) The board shall adopt by rule the criteria for a waiver from the re-**
21 **quirements of subsection (2) of this section to address instances when**
22 **noncompliance is outside the control of the school district.**

23 **SECTION 2.** **The amendments to ORS 326.726 by section 1 of this**
24 **2017 Act first apply to the 2018-2019 school year.**

25 **SECTION 3.** **No later than September 15, 2018, the Department of**
26 **Education shall submit a report, including recommendations for leg-**
27 **islation, to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related**
28 **to education about best practices for screening students for risk fac-**
29 **tors of dyslexia and instructional support for students who show risk**
30 **for or who are identified as having dyslexia.**

31 **SECTION 4.** **This 2017 Act takes effect on July 1, 2018.**

