

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 3040

Relating to early literacy

To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Education Subcommittee

Carrier: Representative Ruiz

HB 3040 adjusts the Early Literacy grant program statutes to include accountability measures. It clarifies that research-aligned literacy strategies apply across all K-5 grades and expands allowable funding uses to include professional development of instructional assistants in elementary schools. The measure contains reporting and data collection requirements for school districts and defines the Department of Education's authority to require school districts that are not meeting proficiency goals to adopt specific textbooks or other instructional materials.

The amendment removes requirements related to an early literacy coaching program and the directive for the Department of Education to establish 10 regions for the assignment of coaching providers. At the current program funding level, it would be difficult for small school districts receiving the minimum grant awards to accomplish all the requirements of these sections of the measure. The removal of these sections alleviates the fiscal impact this measure has on small school districts.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 3040 be amended by the –A5 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.