

## LEGISLATIVE BILL 1052

Approved by the Governor April 17, 2018

Introduced by Pansing Brooks, 28; Baker, 30; Linehan, 39; Walz, 15; Erdman, 47.

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to education; to require instruction as prescribed for students who exhibit characteristics of dyslexia; to provide duties for the State Board of Education; and to provide duties for teacher education programs.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. (1) Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, unless otherwise provided in an individualized education plan for a student receiving special education services, each student who is identified as exhibiting characteristics of dyslexia shall receive evidence-based structured literacy instruction implemented with fidelity using a multisensory approach as provided in the technical assistance document for dyslexia adopted and promulgated by the State Department of Education pursuant to section 2 of this act.

(2) A school district shall not require a student who exhibits characteristics of dyslexia to obtain a medical diagnosis to receive intervention pursuant to this section.

Sec. 2. The State Department of Education shall develop and distribute a technical assistance document for dyslexia. The technical assistance document shall provide information about the characteristics of dyslexia, associated conditions of dyslexia, indicators of dyslexia, and the screening, progress monitoring, evaluation, instruction, and intervention for dyslexia. The technical assistance document shall also provide guidance for evidence-based structured literacy instruction to be implemented with fidelity using a multisensory approach for students who are identified as exhibiting characteristics of dyslexia. Such document shall be distributed to all teacher education programs, educational service units, and school districts to create statewide awareness among educators. The document shall also be referenced in the rules and regulations of the department regarding approval of teacher education programs, special education, and accreditation of schools.

Sec. 3. On and after July 1, 2019, each teacher education program approved by the State Board of Education shall include as a part of their initial program course requirements instruction in dyslexia, including, but not limited to:

- (1) Knowledge and best practice standards for teaching reading;
- (2) Characteristics of dyslexia and the science of dyslexia; and
- (3) Evidence-based structured literacy interventions, classroom accommodations, and assistive technology for individuals with dyslexia.