

SENATE BILL No. 304

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-28.

Synopsis: Dyslexia. Defines "dyslexia" for purposes of teacher licensing. Requires an individual who seeks to receive an initial practitioner's license as an elementary school teacher to demonstrate proficiency in the recognition of specific learning disabilities related to reading, including dyslexia.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

Bray

January 8, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Education & Career Development.



First Regular Session 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 304



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-28-1-6.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2 AS A **NEW SECTION** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3 1, 2015]: **Sec. 6.5. "Dyslexia" means a specific learning disability**
4 **that:**
5 **(1) is neurological in origin and characterized by:**
6 **(A) difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition;**
7 **and**
8 **(B) poor spelling and decoding abilities;**
9 **(2) typically results from a deficit in the phonological**
10 **component of language that is often unexpected in relation to**
11 **other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective**
12 **classroom instruction; and**
13 **(3) may include problems in reading comprehension and**
14 **reduced reading experience that can impede the growth of**
15 **vocabulary and background knowledge.**
16 SECTION 2. IC 20-28-5-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.6-2012,



1 SECTION 136, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
2 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 12. (a) Subsection (b) does not
3 apply to an individual who held an Indiana limited, reciprocal, or
4 standard teaching license on June 30, 1985.

5 (b) The department may not grant an initial practitioner license to
6 an individual unless the individual has demonstrated proficiency in the
7 following areas on a written examination or through other procedures
8 prescribed by the department:

9 (1) Basic reading, writing, and mathematics.

10 (2) Pedagogy.

11 (3) Knowledge of the areas in which the individual is required to
12 have a license to teach.

13 (4) If the individual is seeking to be licensed as an elementary
14 school teacher, comprehensive scientifically based reading
15 instruction skills, including:

16 (A) phonemic awareness;

17 (B) phonics instruction;

18 (C) fluency;

19 (D) vocabulary; and

20 (E) comprehension.

21 **(5) If the individual is seeking to be licensed as an elementary**
22 **school teacher, the recognition of specific learning disabilities**
23 **related to reading, including dyslexia.**

24 (c) An individual's license examination score may not be disclosed
25 by the department without the individual's consent unless specifically
26 required by state or federal statute or court order.

27 (d) The state board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to do the
28 following:

29 (1) Adopt, validate, and implement the examination or other
30 procedures required by subsection (b).

31 (2) Establish examination scores indicating proficiency.

32 (3) Otherwise carry out the purposes of this section.

33 (e) The state board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing
34 the conditions under which the requirements of this section may be
35 waived for an individual holding a valid teacher's license issued by
36 another state.

