
SENATE BILL 6016

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, McAuliffe, Swecker, McDermott, Roach, Delvin, Stevens, Honeyford, McCaslin, Morton, and Shin

Read first time 02/13/09. Referred to Committee on Early Learning & K-12 Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to training for educators to identify students with
2 dyslexia; adding a new section to chapter 28A.600 RCW; and creating a
3 new section.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Dyslexia is a language-based learning
6 disability that affects individuals throughout their lives. Washington
7 state has a long-standing tradition of working to serve its students
8 with dyslexia. Since 2005, the legislature has provided funding for
9 five pilot projects to implement research-based, multisensory literacy
10 intervention for students with dyslexia. Participating schools were
11 required to have a three-tiered reading structure in place, provide
12 professional development training to teachers, assess students, and
13 collect and maintain data on student progress.

14 The legislature finds that the students receiving intervention
15 support through the dyslexia pilot projects have made substantial and
16 steady academic gains. The legislature intends to sustain this work
17 and expand the implementation to a level of statewide support for
18 students with dyslexia by developing and providing information and

1 training, including a handbook to continue to improve the skills of our
2 students with dyslexia.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) To the extent funds are appropriated for this specific purpose,
6 the office of the superintendent of public instruction shall develop an
7 educator training program to enhance the reading, writing, and spelling
8 skills of students with dyslexia by implementing the findings of the
9 dyslexia pilot program. The training program shall be regionally
10 delivered through the educational service districts. The program must
11 provide research-based, multisensory literacy intervention professional
12 development in the areas of dyslexia and intervention implementation.

13 (2) Funds shall be used to provide information and training to
14 classroom teachers and reading specialists, the development of a
15 dyslexia handbook, and to take other statewide actions to improve the
16 reading, writing, and spelling skills of students with dyslexia.

17 (3) Beginning September 1, 2009, and annually thereafter, each
18 educational service district shall report to the office of the
19 superintendent of public instruction the number of individuals who
20 participate in the training offered by the educational service
21 district. The office of the superintendent of public instruction shall
22 share that information with the legislative education committees.

--- END ---