

By: Miller

H.B. No. 1886

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to dyslexia testing, the designation by the Texas
3 Education Agency of a dyslexia specialist, and the development by
4 the agency of a list of training opportunities for educators
5 regarding dyslexia.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Section 38.003(a), Education Code, is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (a) Students enrolling in public schools in this state shall
10 be tested for dyslexia and related disorders at appropriate times
11 in accordance with a program approved by the State Board of
12 Education. The program must include testing each student on
13 enrollment in kindergarten and testing each student in the first
14 grade at the end of the school year.

15 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 38, Education Code, is
16 amended by adding Section 38.0032 to read as follows:

17 Sec. 38.0032. DYSLEXIA SPECIALIST; DYSLEXIA TRAINING
18 OPPORTUNITIES. (a) The agency shall designate an agency employee as
19 a dyslexia specialist to provide school districts with support and
20 resources that are necessary to assist students with dyslexia and
21 the families of students with dyslexia.

22 (b) The agency shall annually develop a list of training
23 opportunities regarding dyslexia that satisfy the requirements of
24 Section 21.054(b). The list of training opportunities must include

1 at least one opportunity that is available online.

2 (c) A training opportunity included in the list developed
3 under Subsection (b) must:

4 (1) comply with the knowledge and practice standards
5 of an international organization on dyslexia; and

6 (2) enable an educator to:

7 (A) understand and recognize dyslexia; and

8 (B) implement instruction that is systematic,
9 explicit, and evidence-based to meet the educational needs of a
10 student with dyslexia.

11 SECTION 3. Section 38.003(a), Education Code, as amended by
12 this Act, applies beginning with the 2017-2018 school year.

13 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.