



[SF 2356](#) – Dyslexia Task Force Recommendations (LSB6089SV)
Staff Contact: Lora Vargason (515.725.2249) lora.vargason@legis.iowa.gov
Fiscal Note Version – As passed by the Senate

Description

[Senate File 2356](#) as passed by the Senate does the following:

- Requires the State Board of Education, in collaboration with the Iowa Reading Research Center (IRRC), to adopt rules by July 1, 2022, regarding the approval of practitioner preparation programs that would offer coursework to meet the requirements for a newly established advanced Dyslexia Specialist endorsement.
- Directs the Department of Education (DE) to dedicate at least one full-time equivalent (FTE) position to be a Dyslexia Consultant and outlines duties of that position.
- Establishes an Iowa Dyslexia Board, requires the Board to submit findings and recommendations, and repeals the Board on July 1, 2025.
- Directs the Board of Educational Examiners (BOEE), in collaboration with the IRRC, to adopt rules regarding the establishment of an advanced Dyslexia Specialist endorsement.
- Subject to appropriation, directs each area education agency (AEA) board to dedicate at least one FTE position to be a Dyslexia Specialist and outlines duties of that position.
- Requires completion of the IRRC Dyslexia Overview module by designated AEA and school district employees.
- Amends the Iowa Code to use the definition of dyslexia provided by the International Dyslexia Association.

Background

In 2018, the Dyslexia Task Force was established and charged with submitting a report regarding its findings and recommendations relating to dyslexia response in the State of Iowa. The Iowa Dyslexia Task Force [Report](#) to the General Assembly was issued November 15, 2019, and included recommendations for the Iowa General Assembly, the DE, AEAs, preservice education programs, and school districts. Goals of the recommendations included increasing dyslexia knowledge across educational settings and building a framework for increased expertise to support students and teachers.

Assumptions

- The DE anticipates no fiscal impact to meet the Dyslexia Consultant position requirement of this Bill because it will use a currently vacant FTE position that will be paid for with federal funding.
- The IRRC Dyslexia Overview [module](#) is available online and is free for all Iowa in-service K-12 teachers and AEA employees. The module takes about an hour to complete, and training would be built into current professional development time.

Fiscal Impact

The Bill requires the BOEE to adopt rules establishing an advanced Dyslexia Specialist endorsement. The IRRC estimated cost to develop the curriculum for the endorsement is \$250,000.

The Bill does not include an appropriation for the AEAs. The AEAs estimate the Dyslexia Specialist position to have a total compensation cost of \$90,000 for nine AEA positions for a total of \$810,000.

Senate File 2356 may include a state mandate as defined in Iowa Code section [25B.3](#) and requires that any state mandate in the Bill be paid by a school district from the state foundation aid appropriation.

Sources

Area Education Agencies
Department of Education
Iowa Dyslexia Task Force
Iowa Reading Research Center

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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