



[SF 2356](#) – Dyslexia Task Force Recommendations (LSB6089SV.2)
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Fiscal Note Version – Final Action

Description

[Senate File 2356](#) 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.
- 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. This requirement is subject to an appropriation by the General Assembly for this purpose.
- 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 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 Act 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.
- The cost to an AEA to hire a Dyslexia Specialist is estimated at \$90,000 per year.

Fiscal Impact

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

The Act does not include an appropriation for the AEA's. The annual cost to hire a Dyslexia Specialist position at each of the nine AEA's is estimated at \$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 Act 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

Effective Date

This act is effective July 1, 2020

Enactment Date

This Act was approved by the General Assembly on June 11, 2020, and signed by the Governor on June 17, 2020.

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

June 18, 2020

Doc ID 1137770

The fiscal note for this Act 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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