

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H4/12/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1891

5 By: Representatives Dotson, *F. Allen, Bentley, Bragg, Breaux, Brooks, Brown, Ennett, Evans, K.*
6 *Ferguson, M. Hodges, Hudson, Lowery, Richardson, Scott, S. Smith, Vaught, D. Whitaker*
7 By: Senator Elliott
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For An Act To Be Entitled

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10 AN ACT TO CREATE A NETWORK OF CERTIFIED ACADEMIC
11 LANGUAGE THERAPISTS TO PROVIDE A SPECIALIZED DYSLEXIA
12 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH
13 DYSLEXIA OR RELATED READING AND WRITTEN-LANGUAGE
14 DIFFICULTIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

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18 TO CREATE A NETWORK OF CERTIFIED ACADEMIC
19 LANGUAGE THERAPISTS TO PROVIDE A
20 SPECIALIZED DYSLEXIA INSTRUCTIONAL
21 PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH
22 DYSLEXIA OR RELATED READING AND WRITTEN-
23 LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES.
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 41, Subchapter 6, is amended
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-41-612. Certified Academic Language Therapists.

31 (a) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:

32 (1) Create a network of Certified Academic Language Therapists
33 to support public schools for the purpose of providing a specialized dyslexia
34 instructional program designed to provide therapy to public school students
35 with dyslexia or related reading and written-language difficulties;

36 (2) Establish and coordinate a dyslexia therapy training program



1 for educators to increase the number of Certified Academic Language
2 Therapists available to provide diagnostic, explicit, systematic,
3 multisensory language intervention that builds a high degree of accuracy,
4 knowledge, and independence for public school students with dyslexia or
5 written-language disorders;

6 (3) Annually convene the network of Certified Academic Language
7 Therapists or dyslexia therapists in order to:

8 (A) Provide updated guidance;

9 (B) Create resources for public schools and parents, legal
10 guardians, and persons standing in loco parentis of public school students;
11 and

12 (C) Review outcomes data for reading in this state; and

13 (4) Coordinate an International Multisensory Structured Language
14 Education Council-accredited course to create additional pathways for
15 certified teachers to develop proficiency in the science of reading in order
16 to grow the network of dyslexia therapists.

17 (b) An education service cooperative may support the implementation of
18 this section by providing additional dyslexia services through a consortium
19 within the region.

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22 */s/Dotson*
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