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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.)

Sub. H.B. 436 of the 133rd General Assembly

Senate Education

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Ohio Dyslexia Committee

Changes the Ohio Dyslexia Committee (ODC) from 6 members selected by the Department of Education and the International Dyslexia Association in Ohio (IDA) to 11 members appointed by specified appointing authorities.

Adds the requirement that each appointing authority must determine its selection process and make its appointment(s) within 30 days after the bill's effective date.

Adds the requirements that the Superintendent of Public Instruction must convene the first meeting of the ODC within 30 days after at least 9 members have been appointed and that the ODC must elect a chairperson at that meeting.

Adds the requirement that the Department must provide facilities for meetings of the ODC.

Grants to the ODC the authority to recommend (1) appropriate ratios in school buildings for students to teachers who have received certification in identifying and addressing dyslexia; (2) which other school personnel should receive such certification; and (3) whether the bill's professional development requirements should include completion of a practicum.

Dyslexia guidebook

Requires the ODC, rather than the Department in collaboration with the ODC, to develop the dyslexia guidebook.

Requires the ODC to use a multi-sensory structure literacy program when developing the guidebook.

Requires the guidebook to be developed by December 31, 2021, rather than June 30, 2020.

Requires the ODC to provide an opportunity for public input when developing the guidebook; develop and issue the guidebook in an electronic format; and update the guidebook as necessary.

Removes the specification of components that must be included in the dyslexia guidebook.

Related Department of Education duties

Requires the Department, in collaboration with the ODC, to complete specified duties by December 31, 2021, rather than June 30, 2020.

Adds the requirement that the Department provide on its website information about training for teachers about dyslexia that is available at minimal or no cost.

Dyslexia screening and intervention measures

Removes the specified dyslexia screening and intervention measures that the Department, in collaboration with the ODC, must identify.

Makes changes to the implementation dates and guidelines for dyslexia screening and intervention measures as follows:

- Changes implementation schedules from the 2020-2021 school year to the 2022-2023 school year and school years thereafter;

- Requires districts and other public schools, for the 2022-2023 school year, to administer tier one screening measures to students in grades K-3 and specifies that screening measures be administered to kindergarten students between January 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024;

- Requires districts and other public schools, for the 2022-2023 school year, to administer tier one screening measures to students in grades 4-6 upon the request of a student's parent, guardian, or custodian or a classroom teacher, with the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's permission;

- Requires districts and other public schools, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year, annually to administer a tier one dyslexia screening measure to each kindergarten student between January 1 of the school year in which the student is enrolled in kindergarten and January 1 of the following school year;

- Requires districts and other public schools, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year and each school year thereafter, to administer a tier one dyslexia screening measure to students enrolled in grades 1-6 upon the request of a student's parent, guardian, or custodian, or a classroom teacher, with the parent's, guardian's, or custodian's permission; and

- Permits districts and other public schools to administer a tier two dyslexia screening measure to students who have undergone a tier one screening measure and then exempts the district or school from the requirement to monitor the progress of at-risk students who receive the tier two screening measure.

Transfer student screening

Changes the schedule and guidelines by which a district or other public school must administer dyslexia screening measures to transfer students as follows:

- Requires each district and other public school, beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, to administer a tier one dyslexia screening measure to kindergarten transfer students during the kindergarten class's regularly scheduled screening or within 30 days after enrollment if the class screening already has taken place; and

- Requires each district and other public school, beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, to administer a tier one dyslexia screening measure to transfer students in grades 1-6 within 30 days after enrollment.

Professional development on instructing students with dyslexia

Changes the required number of clock hours in professional development courses from 18 hours to a number of hours prescribed by the ODC that is between 6 and 18 hours.

Delays the professional development requirements completion date for teachers providing instruction for students in grades K-1 and 2-3 to the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 school years, respectively.

Delays the professional development requirement completion date for teachers providing special education instruction in grades 4-12 from the 2020-2021 school year to the 2025-2026 school year.

Adds the specification that any professional development coursework completed by a teacher prior to the bill's effective date that is then included on the list of Department-approved courses counts toward the number of instructional hours in approved professional development courses required under the bill.

Study of financial costs to implement dyslexia screening measures

Adds a requirement for the Department, by December 31, 2020, to submit a report to the General Assembly regarding the financial costs incurred by not more than four school districts, selected by the Department, that already have implemented dyslexia screening, identification, and remediation services similar to those required by the bill.

Achievement assessment requirements for state scholarship students

Clarifies that Educational Choice, Jon Peterson, and Pilot Project scholarship students are exempt from the achievement assessment requirements for scholarship renewal if the student meets specified requirements.