

AN ACT

relating to an intensive reading and language intervention pilot program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 29.094 to read as follows:

Sec. 29.094. INTENSIVE READING AND LANGUAGE INTERVENTION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "pilot program" means the intensive reading and language intervention pilot program.

(b) The commissioner by rule may establish a pilot program in which a participating campus provides intensive reading and language intervention to participating students.

(c) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, a campus may apply to the commissioner to participate. The commissioner may select for participation in the pilot program only campuses that have failed to improve student performance in reading according to standards established by the commissioner. The standards established by the commissioner for purposes of this subsection must be based on reading performance standards required for student promotion under Section 28.0211.

(d) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, the commissioner shall adopt minimum criteria that a program must meet to be selected by a participating campus for use in providing intensive reading and language intervention. The criteria must

1 include neuroscience-based, scientifically validated methods,  
2 interventions, or instructional tools that have been proven to  
3 accelerate learning, cognitive ability, and language proficiency.  
4 A participating campus shall submit a summary of the campus's  
5 proposed intensive intervention program to the commissioner for  
6 approval. The commissioner may approve only a program that follows  
7 the minimum criteria adopted under this subsection.

8 (e) The principal of a participating campus, in  
9 consultation with classroom teachers at the campus, shall select  
10 students to participate in the pilot program. A participating  
11 campus shall assess each selected student before the student enters  
12 and after the student transfers out of the pilot program to measure  
13 the student's progress.

14 (f) Not later than December 31, 2006, any vendor of an  
15 intensive intervention program approved under Subsection (d), in  
16 consultation with the agency and each school district with which  
17 the vendor contracts under this section, shall provide the  
18 legislature with a report describing student progress under the  
19 assessments administered to participating students under  
20 Subsection (e).

21 (g) Notwithstanding any other law, the commissioner may  
22 provide funding for the pilot program using not more than \$6 million  
23 of funding appropriated for purposes of Section 28.0211.

24 (h) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, the  
25 commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

26 (i) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, the  
27 commissioner shall make the pilot program available to

1 participating campuses during the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school  
2 years.

3 (j) This section expires July 1, 2007.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3468 was passed by the House on May 12, 2005, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3468 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor