

1-1 By: Isett (Senate Sponsor - Van de Putte) H.B. No. 3468
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 13, 2005;
1-3 May 16, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Education; May 20, 2005, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 20, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to an intensive reading and language intervention pilot
1-9 program.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
1-12 amended by adding Section 29.094 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 29.094. INTENSIVE READING AND LANGUAGE INTERVENTION
1-14 PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "pilot program" means the
1-15 intensive reading and language intervention pilot program.

1-16 (b) The commissioner by rule may establish a pilot program
1-17 in which a participating campus provides intensive reading and
1-18 language intervention to participating students.

1-19 (c) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, a
1-20 campus may apply to the commissioner to participate. The
1-21 commissioner may select for participation in the pilot program only
1-22 campuses that have failed to improve student performance in reading
1-23 according to standards established by the commissioner. The
1-24 standards established by the commissioner for purposes of this
1-25 subsection must be based on reading performance standards required
1-26 for student promotion under Section 28.0211.

1-27 (d) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, the
1-28 commissioner shall adopt minimum criteria that a program must meet
1-29 to be selected by a participating campus for use in providing
1-30 intensive reading and language intervention. The criteria must
1-31 include neuroscience-based, scientifically validated methods,
1-32 interventions, or instructional tools that have been proven to
1-33 accelerate learning, cognitive ability, and language proficiency.
1-34 A participating campus shall submit a summary of the campus's
1-35 proposed intensive intervention program to the commissioner for
1-36 approval. The commissioner may approve only a program that follows
1-37 the minimum criteria adopted under this subsection.

1-38 (e) The principal of a participating campus, in
1-39 consultation with classroom teachers at the campus, shall select
1-40 students to participate in the pilot program. A participating
1-41 campus shall assess each selected student before the student enters
1-42 and after the student transfers out of the pilot program to measure
1-43 the student's progress.

1-44 (f) Not later than December 31, 2006, any vendor of an
1-45 intensive intervention program approved under Subsection (d), in
1-46 consultation with the agency and each school district with which
1-47 the vendor contracts under this section, shall provide the
1-48 legislature with a report describing student progress under the
1-49 assessments administered to participating students under
1-50 Subsection (e).

1-51 (g) Notwithstanding any other law, the commissioner may
1-52 provide funding for the pilot program using not more than \$6 million
1-53 of funding appropriated for purposes of Section 28.0211.

1-54 (h) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, the
1-55 commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to implement this section.

1-56 (i) If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, the
1-57 commissioner shall make the pilot program available to
1-58 participating campuses during the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 school
1-59 years.

1-60 (j) This section expires July 1, 2007.

1-61 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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