

AN ACT

relating to an intensive reading or language intervention pilot program at certain public school campuses.

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

SECTION 1. Section 29.094, Education Code, is reenacted and amended to read as follows:

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

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

(c) A [~~If the commissioner establishes the pilot program, a~~] campus may apply to the commissioner to participate in the pilot program. 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) The [~~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

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

11 (e) The principal of a participating campus, in  
12 consultation with classroom teachers at the campus, shall select  
13 students to participate in the pilot program based on assessment  
14 data. Benchmark measures shall be administered at the beginning  
15 and end of the program [~~A participating campus shall assess each~~  
16 ~~selected student before the student enters and after the student~~  
17 ~~transfers out of the pilot program to measure the student's~~  
18 ~~progress~~].

19 (f) Not later than December 31, 2008 [~~2006~~], any vendor of  
20 an intensive intervention program approved under Subsection (d), in  
21 consultation with the agency and each school district with which  
22 the vendor contracts under this section, shall provide the  
23 legislature with a report describing student progress under the  
24 assessments administered to participating students under  
25 Subsection (e).

26 (g) Notwithstanding any other law, the commissioner shall  
27 [~~may~~] provide funding for the pilot program using not more than \$6

1 million of funding appropriated for purposes of Section 28.0211.

2 (h) The [~~If the commissioner establishes the pilot program,~~  
3 ~~the~~] commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to implement this  
4 section.

5 (i) The [~~If the commissioner establishes the pilot program,~~  
6 ~~the~~] commissioner shall make the pilot program available to  
7 participating campuses during the 2007-2008 and 2008-2009  
8 [~~2005-2006 and 2006-2007~~] school years.

9 [~~(j) This section expires July 1, 2007.~~]

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1270 was passed by the House on April 17, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1270 on May 10, 2007, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 1270 on May 21, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 128, Nays 13, 3 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

H.B. No. 1270

I certify that H.B. No. 1270 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 7, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 1270 on May 26, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

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

Date

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Governor