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## DIGEST

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HB 12 Reengrossed

2023 Regular Session

Nelson

**Abstract:** Prohibits the promotion of certain students with reading deficiencies not remedied by the end of the third grade; provides exceptions.

Present law provides for an early literacy screener for students in grades kindergarten through third grade. Proposed law provides that if a student has a reading deficiency that is not remedied by the end of the third grade as demonstrated by scoring at the lowest achievement level in reading on the screener, the student shall be given, prior to the beginning of the subsequent school year, two additional opportunities to score a higher achievement level on the literacy screener. Provides that if after three opportunities the student has not scored above the lowest achievement level in reading on the screener, the student shall not be promoted to the fourth grade; however, prior to retention, requires that the student be screened for dyslexia and provides that if the student is diagnosed with dyslexia, he may be granted a "good cause" promotion. Requires parental notification and intensive instructional services for retained third graders.

Proposed law, notwithstanding the above proposed law, allows promotion to fourth grade for good cause. Limits good-cause promotions to students who meet specific criteria, including being diagnosed with dyslexia, and provides a process for determining if they are promoted. Requires that certain instructional services be provided to fourth graders promoted under these circumstances.

Proposed law requires BESE to adopt rules for proposed law implementation and provides for proposed law implementation beginning with the 2024-2025 school year.

(Adds R.S. 17:24.11)

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Change timeline for provision of intensive instructional services from prior to retention in third grade to the student's repeated third grade school year.

### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Require screening a student for dyslexia prior to retention in third grade.
2. Add being diagnosed with dyslexia to the list of criteria under which students may be

promoted to fourth grade for good cause.