

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 266 (HB 69)

2023 Regular Session

Marino

Prior law provided the following relative to dyslexia:

- (1) Required the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt a program for testing students for dyslexia and related disorders and required school boards to provide remediation for dyslexic students in accordance with the program.
- (2) Required every child in grades K-3 to be screened at least once for dyslexia.
- (3) Required a student to be referred for dyslexia testing upon request of a parent, student, or school personnel.
- (4) Provided for implementation of a pilot program relative to dyslexia screening.

New law requires the state Dept. of Education to select a dyslexia screener with an area under the curve of 0.80 or above and to provide the screener, at no cost, to each public school. Requires the screener to be administered to each student by a classroom teacher in the second half of kindergarten or at any time it is requested by a teacher or a parent or guardian. Requires that the screener be developed solely for dyslexia; be evidence-based with proven, published psychometric validity; and be used for the purpose of determining whether a student is at risk for dyslexia. Requires the parent to be notified within 30 days if the results indicate that a student is at risk for dyslexia. Implementation of new law is subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

New law recodifies the following existing law for purposes of statutory organization:

- (1) Defines "dyslexia" as an unexpected difficulty in reading for an individual who has the intelligence to be a much better reader, most commonly caused by a difficulty in phonological processing, which affects the ability of an individual to speak, read, and spell. Defines "phonological processing" as meaning the appreciation of the individual sounds of spoken and written language.
- (2) Provides for reporting relative to students with dyslexia and provides for the issuance of an ancillary certificate to a teacher for service as a dyslexia practitioner or dyslexia therapist.

New law applies new law (relative to dyslexia screening) and existing law (relative to dyslexia reporting) to charter schools.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 17:7.2(A)(8)(a)(iii), 392.1(D), and 2112(Section heading); Adds R.S. 17:392.11-392.13 and 3996(B)(75); Repeals R.S. 17:7(11), 392.1(B)(2)(a) and (3) and (F), 392.2, and 2112(A)(2) and (B))