

STATE OF NEW YORK

7822

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

May 23, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. SIMON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Correction

AN ACT to amend the correction law, in relation to a reading proficiency level assessment and dyslexia screening for incarcerated individuals

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The correction law is amended by adding a new section 137-a
2 to read as follows:

3 § 137-a. Reading proficiency level assessment and dyslexia screening.
4 1. As part of the intake process, an incarcerated individual who does
5 not have a high school diploma or its equivalent shall receive a reading
6 proficiency level assessment and dyslexia screening. If an incarcerated
7 individual demonstrates that he or she is below the proficiency level
8 required to be a high-functioning reader, such individual shall be
9 provided with dyslexia intervention that is evidence-based, effective,
10 and consistent with science-based research specifically tailored to
11 addressing dyslexia.

12 2. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of educa-
13 tion, shall promulgate rules and regulations that require, but are not
14 limited to the following:

15 (a) Teachers at all correctional facilities shall have and demonstrate
16 awareness of the best practices of scientific reading instruction;

17 (b) Each inmate who does not have a high school diploma or its equiv-
18 alent shall receive a reading proficiency level assessment and a dysle-
19 xia screening; and

20 (c) A process be established in which incarcerated individuals, upon
21 intake, are assessed and administered a dyslexia screening, and provided
22 with dyslexia intervention that is evidence-based, effective, and
23 consistent with science-based research specifically tailored to address-
24 ing dyslexia.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 3. Each superintendent shall submit a plan to the department that
2 allows incarcerated individuals to voluntarily receive a reading profi-
3 ciency level assessment, dyslexia screening, and reading instruction
4 that is evidence-based, effective, and consistent with science-based
5 research specifically tailored to addressing dyslexia.

6 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
7 have become a law. Effective immediately the addition, amendment and/or
8 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
9 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
10 on or before such date.