

# STATE OF NEW YORK

2062

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

January 14, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. SIMON, TAYLOR -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ABBATE, ASHBY, BARRON, CRUZ, DICKENS, EPSTEIN, GLICK, GOTTFRIED, HUNTER, LUPARDO, O'DONNELL, RA, REYES, SAYEGH, THIELE, WEPRIN -- 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:

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

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

2. The commissioner, in consultation with the commissioner of education, shall promulgate rules and regulations that require, but are not limited to the following:

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

(b) Each inmate who does not have a high school diploma or its equivalent shall receive a reading proficiency level assessment and a dyslexia screening; and

(c) A process be established in which incarcerated individuals, upon intake, are assessed and administered a dyslexia screening, and provided with dyslexia intervention that is evidence-based, effective, and

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

LBD01117-01-1

1 consistent with science-based research specifically tailored to address-  
2 ing dyslexia.

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

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