STATE OF NEW YORK

7418

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

October 4, 2021

Introduced by Sen. SKOUFIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring screening for dyslexia and providing for intervention services for dyslexic children

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 4407-a to read as follows:

§ 4407-a. Mandatory early screening and special provisions relating to instruction of children with dyslexia or other phonological differences or disabilities. 1. All school districts shall be required to conduct full and individual screenings in accordance with this section for purposes of early identification, support, intervention and accommodation of children with dyslexia. For the purposes of this section, "dyslexia" shall mean dyslexia or any other phonological learning difference or disability.

2. Mandatory early screening for dyslexia shall be conducted by each school district using a screening program that is: (a) evidence based with proven psychometrics for validity; (b) efficient and low cost; and (c) readily available. Mandatory early screening shall commence during kindergarten and shall continue thereafter on an annual basis until such child has successfully completed the second grade.

3. All school districts shall provide intervention services for any student who is identified as having dyslexia. Such intervention services shall be small group instruction in multi-sensory sequential phonics or another approved curriculum for children identified to be at risk of being dyslexic, which shall be taught in addition to any other instruction.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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