

STATE OF NEW YORK

8320

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

November 27, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. JENSEN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring certain teachers who provide literacy instruction obtain a literacy endorsement

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

1 Section 1. Section 3004 of the education law is amended by adding a
2 new subdivision 7 to read as follows:

3 7. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the commissioner is
4 authorized and directed to prescribe regulations establishing a literacy
5 endorsement as a requirement for all certified teachers who provide
6 literacy instruction to students in kindergarten through grade five.
7 Such regulations shall require that teachers receiving certification on
8 and after January first, two thousand twenty-five who provide literacy
9 instruction to students in kindergarten through grade five obtain a
10 literacy endorsement within three years of receiving certification. For
11 teachers receiving certification before January first, two thousand
12 twenty-five, the regulations shall require such teachers receive a
13 literacy endorsement on or before January first, two thousand twenty-
14 eight. The literacy endorsement shall require teachers to complete
15 evidence-based science of reading training and other coursework as
16 determined by the commissioner and to pass a literacy instruction
17 assessment demonstrating that the teacher is capable of:

18 (i) effectively teaching foundational reading skills, phonemic aware-
19 ness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension;

20 (ii) implementing reading instruction using high-quality instructional
21 materials; and

22 (iii) providing effective instruction and interventions for students
23 with reading deficiencies, including students with characteristics of
24 dyslexia.

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

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1 (b) The commissioner shall require that on and after January first,
2 two thousand twenty-four, all approved educator preparation programs in
3 childhood education and early childhood education include courses neces-
4 sary to obtain a literacy endorsement pursuant to paragraph (a) of this
5 subdivision.

6 (c) The commissioner shall establish a means by which a school
7 district, at the request of a teacher, may receive an exemption to the
8 literacy endorsement for that teacher based on classroom observations
9 and student achievement data demonstrating the knowledge of literacy
10 instruction prescribed in paragraph (a) of this subdivision.

11 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.