STATE OF NEW YORK

8044

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 15, 2025

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

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing the libraries literacy education guidance act

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

Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "libraries literacy education guidance act".

§ 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 286 to read as follows:

§ 286. Libraries literacy education guidance. 1. One year after the effective date of this section, the state librarian, in consultation with the commissioner and any other group deemed necessary, shall provide guidance on evidence-based practices for literacy education, focusing on reading competency in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, comprehension, including background knowledge, oral language and writing, and oral skill development, for students in pre-kindergarten through grade five based on the instructional best practices established by the commissioner, pursuant to section eight hundred eighteen of the education law. The state librarian, in consultation with the commissioner and any other group deemed necessary, shall also provide modified guidance for students beyond grade five and adults. Such guidance shall be distributed to every public library and association library in New York state.

2. Such guidance may include but not be limited to texts, education technology, professional education, and public informational materials.

3. The state librarian shall update such guidance every two years and shall consider feedback from the public libraries and association libraries to which the guidance is distributed.

§ 3. 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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