

Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2602

By Committee on Education

2-15

1 AN ACT concerning school districts; creating the legislative task force on
2 dyslexia.

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4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the legislative task force on
6 dyslexia. The task force shall advise and make recommendations to the
7 governor, the legislature and the state board of education regarding matters
8 concerning the use of evidence-based practices for students with dyslexia.
9 The work of the task force should be completed by November 1, 2018, and
10 a report prepared and submitted to the governor, the legislature and the
11 state board of education by December 1, 2018.

12 (b) The recommendations and resource materials shall:

13 (1) Research and recommend evidence-based reading practices to
14 address dyslexia or characteristics of dyslexia for use by schools;

15 (2) research and recommend high quality pre-service and in-service
16 professional development activities to address reading difficulties like
17 dyslexia, including identification of dyslexia and effective reading
18 interventions to be used in schools and within degree programs, such as
19 education, reading, special education, speech-language pathology and
20 psychology;

21 (3) study and examine current state and federal laws and rules and
22 regulations, and the implementation of such laws and rules and regulations
23 that affect students with dyslexia; and

24 (4) identify valid and reliable screening and evaluation assessments
25 and protocols that can be used and the appropriate personnel to administer
26 such assessments in order to identify children with reading difficulties,
27 such as dyslexia or the characteristics of dyslexia as part of an ongoing
28 reading progress monitoring system, multi-tiered system of supports and
29 child find special education eligibility for students.

30 (c) The task force shall consist of 17 members as follows:

31 (1) Two members of the senate with one member appointed by the
32 president of the senate, and one member appointed by the minority leader
33 of the senate;

34 (2) two members of the house of representatives with one member
35 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, and one member
36 appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;

1 (3) two members appointed by the state board of education;

2 (4) one member shall be a professor employed by a state educational
3 institution with specialized expertise in effective evidence-based reading
4 practices for dyslexia;

5 (5) two members shall be principals of a public school appointed by
6 the united school administrators of Kansas;

7 (6) four members shall be the parents of children with a diagnosis of
8 dyslexia appointed by keys for networking, inc., families together, inc. and
9 decoding dyslexia Johnson county;

10 (7) one member shall be appointed by the Kansas association of
11 special education administrators;

12 (8) one member shall be a building level reading specialist appointed
13 by the commissioner of education;

14 (9) one member shall be a licensed psychologist or speech-language
15 pathologist who diagnoses dyslexia as a part of such person's practice; and

16 (10) one member shall be identified as a nonprofit service provider
17 for children diagnosed with dyslexia.

18 (d) The state board of education shall designate one of the members
19 appointed by the state board as the chairperson of the legislative task force
20 on dyslexia. The chairperson shall call an organizational meeting of the
21 task force on or before July 15, 2018. At such organizational meeting, the
22 members will elect a vice-chairperson from the membership of the task
23 force. The task force also shall consider dates for future meetings, the
24 agenda for such meetings and the need for electing a facilitator to assist in
25 discussions among the members of the task force. The task force shall
26 meet no more than six times in 2018 and may hold meetings by telephone
27 or video conference, if necessary.

28 (e) The task force may meet at any time and at any place within the
29 state on the call of the chairperson. A quorum of the task force shall be
30 nine members. All actions of the task force shall be by motion adopted by
31 a majority of those members present when there is a quorum.

32 (f) If approved by the legislative coordinating council, members of
33 the task force attending meetings authorized by the task force shall be paid
34 amounts for expenses, mileage and subsistence as provided in K.S.A. 75-
35 3223(e), and amendments thereto.

36 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
37 publication in the statute book.