

## SENATE BILL No. 410

By Committee on Education

2-8

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1 AN ACT concerning school districts; relating to the identification and  
2 instruction of pupils with dyslexia.

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

5 Section 1. (a) Upon receipt of a written statement from a licensed  
6 physician, psychologist or psychiatrist, stating that a child has been  
7 diagnosed with dyslexia, a school district shall implement best practices in  
8 instructing such child pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the  
9 state board of education. No evaluation or independent educational  
10 evaluation shall be required prior to the implementation of such best  
11 practices.

12 (b) The state board of education shall adopt rules and regulations:

13 (1) To establish best practices of instruction in general education for  
14 children with dyslexia, including, but not limited to, implementation of a  
15 section 504 accommodation plan, and intense instruction under tier three  
16 of the Kansas multi-tier system of supports. Such services shall be  
17 provided on a continuum under the response to intervention model, and  
18 shall not be limited if the student qualifies and needs remediation;

19 (2) to require school districts to provide early screening or testing of  
20 pupils enrolled in pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and grades one and two  
21 to identify those pupils with significant language and literacy disorders,  
22 including, but not limited to, dyslexia; and

23 (3) to require that teachers successfully complete teacher preparation  
24 courses that include the language essentials for teachers of reading and  
25 spelling curriculum or other appropriate intensive multisensory teacher  
26 training programs that are specifically designed for children with dyslexia,  
27 and knowledge of best practices of instruction for children with dyslexia,  
28 including scientifically-based reading instructional components.

29 (c) Services provided pursuant to this section shall be implemented as  
30 part of the response to intervention model of the multi-tier system of  
31 supports.

32 (d) For purposes of this section, the term "dyslexia" means a specific  
33 learning disability that is neurological in origin, and characterized by  
34 difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and poor spelling and  
35 decoding abilities. The term "dyslexia" includes: (1) Those difficulties  
36 described above that result from a deficit in the phonological component

1 of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities  
2 and the provision of effective classroom instruction; and (2) secondary  
3 consequences, such as problems in reading comprehension and reduced  
4 reading experience that can impede the growth of vocabulary and  
5 background knowledge.

6 (e) This section shall be part of and supplement to the special  
7 education for exceptional children act, K.S.A. 72-961 *et seq.*, and  
8 amendments thereto.

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