



PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 **AN ACT to create** 115.28 (56) and 118.015 (4) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 developing a guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Public Instruction, in consultation with an advisory committee created under the bill, to develop a guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia for pupils, parents, teachers, and administrators. DPI must include in the guidebook 1) guidelines for identifying dyslexia and struggling readers, 2) educational strategies to improve academic performance of pupils with dyslexia and pupils who are struggling readers, and 3) resources and services that are available to such pupils, their parents, and educators. Under the bill, DPI, in consultation with the International Dyslexia Association – Wisconsin Branch Inc. (IDA), and the Wisconsin State Reading Association, Inc. (WSRA), must review and revise the guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia at least once every three years. Additionally, DPI must publish the guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia on its Internet site and school boards that maintain an Internet site must provide a link to the guidebook on their Internet sites.

Under the bill, the state superintendent of public instruction must establish an advisory committee to develop a draft guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia to recommend to DPI. The advisory committee is comprised of 17 members who are appointed by the state superintendent. With the exception of the member who is a representative of DPI, the state superintendent must appoint half of the advisory committee from recommendations submitted by IDA and half of the advisory committee from recommendations submitted by WSRA. Additionally, the

bill specifies that the state superintendent must appoint one cochairperson from recommendations made by IDA and one cochairperson from recommendations made by WSRA. Under the bill, all of the members of the advisory committee must be appointed by no later than approximately six months after the effective date of the bill and the advisory committee must submit a draft guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia to DPI and to appropriate standing committees of the legislature no later than approximately one year after the date on which the members are appointed.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 115.28 (56) of the statutes is created to read:

2 115.28 **(56)** GUIDEBOOK RELATED TO READING DIFFICULTIES AND DYSLEXIA. (a) At
3 least once every 3 school years, in consultation with the International Dyslexia
4 Association – Wisconsin Branch, Inc., and the Wisconsin State Reading Association,
5 Inc., review the guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia developed
6 under 2019 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 3 (1), and, if appropriate, revise the
7 guidebook.

8 (b) Publish on the department’s Internet site the guidebook related to reading
9 difficulties and dyslexia developed under 2019 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 3
10 (1), and any revisions under par. (a).

11 **SECTION 2.** 118.015 (4) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

12 118.015 **(4)** (d) If the school board maintains an Internet site for the school
13 district, include a link to the guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia
14 that is published on the department’s Internet site under s. 115.28 (56) (b).

15 **SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.**

16 (1) GUIDEBOOK RELATED TO READING DIFFICULTIES AND DYSLEXIA. The department
17 of public instruction, in consultation with the advisory committee established under

1 sub. (2), shall develop a guidebook that provides guidance for parents, guardians,
2 teachers, and administrators on the subject of dyslexia and pupils who struggle with
3 reading. The department shall publish the guidebook developed under this
4 subsection on the department's Internet site no later than the first day of the 4th
5 month after the date on which the department receives a draft guidebook under sub.
6 (4). The department shall include in the guidebook related to reading difficulties and
7 dyslexia at least all of the following:

8 (a) Guidelines on how to identify signs of dyslexia and signs that a pupil is a
9 struggling reader.

10 (b) A description of educational strategies that have been shown to improve
11 academic performance of pupils with dyslexia and pupils who are struggling readers.

12 (c) A description of resources and services related to dyslexia and struggling
13 readers that are available to all of the following:

14 1. Pupils with dyslexia.

15 2. Pupils who are struggling readers.

16 3. Parents and guardians of pupils with dyslexia.

17 4. Parents and guardians of pupils who are struggling readers.

18 5. Educators.

19 (2) **ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** The state superintendent of public instruction shall
20 establish an advisory committee to develop a draft guidebook related to reading
21 difficulties and dyslexia to recommend to the department of public instruction. The
22 advisory committee shall be comprised of the following members:

23 (a) A representative of the department of public instruction.

24 (b) A parent of a child with dyslexia.

25 (c) A parent of a child who is a struggling reader, but who is not dyslexic.

- 1 (cm) An individual with dyslexia.
- 2 (d) A representative of Decoding Dyslexia.
- 3 (e) A representative of International Dyslexia Association – Wisconsin Branch,
- 4 Inc.
- 5 (f) A representative of Wisconsin State Reading Association, Inc.
- 6 (g) A representative of the Wisconsin Reading Coalition.
- 7 (h) A representative of a cooperative educational service agency.
- 8 (i) One individual who is licensed as a speech-language pathologist under
- 9 subch. II of ch. 459.
- 10 (j) One individual who researches brain science as it relates to dyslexia and
- 11 children who struggle with reading.
- 12 (k) A school administrator.
- 13 (l) A teacher.
- 14 (m) A reading specialist.
- 15 (n) A representative of a School of Education in the University of Wisconsin
- 16 System.
- 17 (o) A special education coordinator.

****NOTE: Is this descriptive enough to meet the committee's intent? Is this intended to describe an individual who holds a "Director of Special Education and Pupil Services" license?

- 18 (p) A representative of the Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners.
- 19 (3) APPOINTMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS. The state superintendent of
- 20 public instruction shall appoint the members of the advisory committee under sub.
- 21 (2) as follows:
- 22 (a) By no later than 30 days after the effective date of this paragraph, the
- 23 International Dyslexia Association – Wisconsin Branch, Inc., shall submit to the

1 state superintendent of public instruction a list of 3 individuals it recommends to
2 represent the organization on the advisory committee. By no later than 60 days after
3 the effective date of this paragraph, the state superintendent of public instruction
4 shall appoint one individual from the list submitted under this paragraph to serve
5 as the member under sub. (2) (e) and shall appoint the individual as a cochairperson
6 of the advisory committee.

7 (b) By no later than 30 days after the effective date of this paragraph, the
8 Wisconsin State Reading Association, Inc., shall submit to the state superintendent
9 of public instruction a list of 3 individuals it recommends to represent the
10 organization on the advisory committee. By no later than 60 days after the effective
11 date of this paragraph, the state superintendent of public instruction shall appoint
12 one individual from the list submitted under this paragraph to serve as the member
13 under sub. (2) (f) and shall appoint the individual as a cochairperson of the advisory
14 committee.

15 (c) By no later than 90 days after the effective date of this paragraph, the
16 International Dyslexia Association – Wisconsin Branch, Inc., and the Wisconsin
17 State Reading Association, Inc., shall each submit a list of up to 20 individuals that
18 the organization recommends to be a member of the advisory committee. For each
19 individual included in the list of recommendations, the organization shall include
20 the individual's membership criteria under sub. (2) (b) to (d) and (g) to (p).

21 (d) By no later than 120 days after the effective date of this paragraph, the state
22 superintendent of public instruction shall determine whether the lists of
23 recommendations received under par. (c) are sufficient to appoint the members listed
24 in sub. (2) (b) to (d) and (g) to (p). If the state superintendent of public instruction
25 determines the lists are insufficient, the state superintendent shall immediately

1 notify the International Dyslexia Association – Wisconsin Branch, Inc., and the
2 Wisconsin State Reading Association, Inc., and allow the organizations to submit
3 additional recommendations within 30 days.

4 (e) By no later than the first day of the 7th month after the effective date of this
5 paragraph, the state superintendent shall appoint to the advisory committee all of
6 the following:

7 1. The representative of the department of public instruction under sub. (2) (a).

8 2. Eight of the members listed in sub. (2) (b) to (d) and (g) to (p) from the
9 recommendations provided by International Dyslexia Association – Wisconsin
10 Branch, Inc., under pars. (c) and (d).

11 3. Eight of the members listed in sub. (2) (b) to (d) and (g) to (p) from the
12 recommendations provided by the Wisconsin State Reading Association, Inc., under
13 pars. (c) and (d).

14 (4) DRAFT GUIDEBOOK RELATED TO READING DIFFICULTIES AND DYSLEXIA. By no later
15 than the first day of the 12th month after the date on which all members of the
16 advisory committee have been appointed under sub. (3) (e), the advisory committee
17 shall submit a draft guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia that
18 includes the information required under sub. (1) (a) to (c) to the department of public
19 instruction and the appropriate standing committee of each house of the legislature.
20 The advisory committee shall consider whether to include a definition of “dyslexia”
21 in the guidebook.

22 **SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

23 (1) GUIDEBOOK REVIEW PROCESS. The treatment of s. 115.28 (56) (a) first applies
24 beginning on the date the guidebook related to reading difficulties and dyslexia is

1 published on the department of public instruction's Internet site under SECTION 3 (1)
2 of this act.

3 (END)