

SENATE AMENDMENT NO. _____

Offered by _____ of _____

Amend _____ House _____ Bill No. 1643, Page 1, Section _____ Title _____, Line 3,

2 by striking all of said line and inserting in lieu thereof the
3 following: "the welfare of students."; and

4 Further amend said bill, page 2, section 170.310, line 31,
5 by inserting immediately after said line the following:

6 "633.420. 1. For the purposes of this section, the term
7 "dyslexia" shall be defined as a disorder that is neurological in
8 origin, characterized by difficulties with accurate and fluent
9 word recognition and poor spelling and decoding abilities that
10 typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of
11 language, often unexpected in relation to other cognitive
12 abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction,
13 and of which secondary consequences may include problems in
14 reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can
15 impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge. Nothing in
16 this definition shall require a student with dyslexia to obtain
17 an individualized education program (IEP) unless the student has
18 otherwise met the federal conditions necessary.

19 2. There is hereby created the "Legislative Task Force on
20 Dyslexia". The joint committee on education shall provide
21 technical and administrative support as required by the task
22 force to fulfill its duties. The task force shall meet at least

1 quarterly and may hold meetings by telephone or video conference.
2 The task force shall advise and make recommendations to the
3 governor, general assembly, and relevant state agencies regarding
4 matters concerning individuals with dyslexia including education
5 and other adult and adolescent services.

6 3. The task force shall be comprised of nineteen members
7 consisting of the following:

8 (1) Four members of the general assembly, with two members
9 from the senate to be appointed by the president pro tempore and
10 two members from the house of representatives to be appointed by
11 the speaker of the house of representatives;

12 (2) The commissioner of education, or his or her designee;

13 (3) One representative from an institution of higher
14 education located in this state with specialized expertise in
15 dyslexia and reading instruction appointed by the speaker of the
16 house of representatives;

17 (4) A representative from a state teachers association
18 appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

19 (5) A representative from the International Dyslexia
20 Association of Missouri appointed by the speaker of the house of
21 representatives;

22 (6) A representative from Decoding Dyslexia of Missouri
23 appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

24 (7) A representative from the Missouri Association of
25 Elementary School Principals appointed by the speaker of the
26 house of representatives;

27 (8) A representative from the Missouri Council of
28 Administrators of Special Education appointed by the president
29 pro tempore of the senate;

1 (9) A professional licensed in the state of Missouri with
2 experience diagnosing dyslexia including, but not limited to, a
3 licensed psychologist, school psychologist, or neuropsychologist
4 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

5 (10) A speech-language pathologist with training in an
6 Orton-Gillingham remediation program recommended by the Missouri
7 Speech-Language Hearing Association to be appointed by the pro
8 tempore of the senate;

9 (11) A certified academic language therapist recommended by
10 the Academic Language Therapists Association who is a resident of
11 this state appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;

12 (12) A representative from an independent private provider
13 or nonprofit organization serving individuals with dyslexia
14 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

15 (13) An assistive technology specialist with expertise in
16 accessible print materials and assistive technology used by
17 individuals with dyslexia recommended by the Missouri assistive
18 technology council appointed by the president pro tempore of the
19 senate;

20 (14) One private citizen who has a child that has been
21 diagnosed with dyslexia appointed by the speaker of the house of
22 representatives;

23 (15) One private citizen who has been diagnosed with
24 dyslexia appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;
25 and

26 (16) A pediatrician with knowledge of dyslexia to be
27 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

28 4. A chairperson shall be selected by the members of the
29 task force. Any vacancy on the task force shall be filled in

1 the same manner as the original appointment. Members shall serve
2 on the task force without compensation.

3 5. The task force shall make recommendations for a
4 statewide system for identification, intervention, and delivery
5 of supports for students with dyslexia including the development
6 of resource materials and professional development activities.
7 These recommendations shall be included in a report to the
8 governor and general assembly and shall include findings and
9 proposed legislation and shall be made available no longer than
10 twelve months from the task force's first meeting.

11 6. The recommendations and resource materials developed by
12 the task force shall:

13 (1) Determine valid and reliable diagnostic assessments and
14 protocols that can be used and the appropriate personnel to
15 administer the assessments in order to identify children with
16 dyslexia or the characteristics of dyslexia as part of an ongoing
17 reading progress monitoring system in schools;

18 (2) Recommend a research-based instruction and intervention
19 system including a list of approved dyslexia therapy programs, to
20 address dyslexia or characteristics of dyslexia for use by
21 schools in multi-tiered systems of support, and for services as
22 appropriate for special education eligible students;

23 (3) Develop and implement preservice and in-service
24 professional development activities to address dyslexia
25 identification and intervention, including utilization of
26 accessible print materials and assistive technology, within
27 degree programs such as education, reading, special education,
28 speech-language pathology, and psychology;

29 (4) Review teacher certification and professional

1 development requirements as they relate to the needs of students
2 with dyslexia;

3 (5) Examine the barriers to accurate information on the
4 prevalence of students with dyslexia across the state and
5 recommend a process for accurate reporting of demographic data;
6 and

7 (6) Study and evaluate current practices for diagnosing,
8 treating, and educating children in this state and examine how
9 current laws and regulations affect students with dyslexia in
10 order to present recommendations to the governor and general
11 assembly.

12 7. The task force shall hire or contract for hire
13 specialist services to support the work of the task force as
14 necessary with appropriations made by the general assembly for
15 that purpose or from other available funding.

16 8. The task force authorized under this section shall
17 automatically terminate on August 31, 2018, unless reauthorized
18 by an act of the general assembly."; and

19 Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.