

**Second Regular Session  
Sixty-sixth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 08-0321.01 Jane Ritter

**HOUSE BILL 08-1223**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Merrifield**, Benefield, Buescher, Carroll M., Casso, Curry, Fischer, Kerr A., Levy, Massey, McNulty, Peniston, Primavera, Scanlan, Solano, and Witwer

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Williams**,

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**House Committees**

Education  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERTAINING**  
102 **TO COLORADO PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH LITERACY**  
103 **CHALLENGES THAT INCLUDE DYSLEXIA.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not necessarily reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted.)*

Requires the department of education ("department") to make available to school districts, administrative units, and local education agencies technical assistance and training ("training") pertaining to students with literacy challenges, including dyslexia. Requires the department to develop the training based on a tiered continuum of intensity for intervention within the response to intervention model.

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

SENATE  
2nd Reading Unamended  
April 25, 2008

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 11, 2008

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 10, 2008

Encourages the department to coordinate the training with current best practices and work occurring in teacher preparation programs at state institutions of higher education. Requires the department to make an annual report to the state board of education and the education committees of the house of representatives and senate concerning the activities and status of the training.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** Part 1 of article 2 of title 22, Colorado Revised  
3 Statutes, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION to  
4 read:

5           **22-2-132. Assessment and identification of students with**  
6 **literacy challenges including dyslexia - training and technical**  
7 **assistance - collaboration with higher education.** (1) ON OR BEFORE  
8 AUGUST 1, 2008, AS PART OF ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR EDUCATION  
9 STANDARDS AND PRACTICE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY MAKE AVAILABLE  
10 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING CONCERNING ISSUES FACED BY  
11 STUDENTS WITH LITERACY CHALLENGES, INCLUDING DYSLEXIA, ██████  
12 TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS, ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS AS DEFINED IN SECTION  
13 22-20-103 (1), RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES, CORRECTIONAL  
14 FACILITIES, AND OTHER LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE  
15 STATE. THE PROVISION OF ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING  
16 PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (1) SHALL NOT PRECLUDE THE  
17 DEPARTMENT FROM USING FEDERAL FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT SUCH  
18 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING. ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND  
19 TRAINING PROVIDED SHALL INCLUDE BUT NEED NOT BE LIMITED TO THE  
20 AREAS OF AWARENESS, ASSESSMENT, IDENTIFICATION, AND  
21 EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRESS MONITORING, AND SHALL INCLUDE  
22 SCIENTIFICALLY BASED INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF

1 STUDENTS WITH LITERACY CHALLENGES, INCLUDING DYSLEXIA. ANY  
2 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROVIDED SHALL REPRESENT A  
3 TIERED CONTINUUM OF INTENSITY FOR INTERVENTION CONSISTENT WITH  
4 THE RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION MODEL THAT SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE  
5 REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT NO LATER THAN AUGUST 15, 2009, PURSUANT  
6 TO RULES ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

7 (2) THE DEPARTMENT IS ENCOURAGED TO COORDINATE ANY  
8 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROVIDED WITH CURRENT BEST  
9 PRACTICES AND WORK OCCURRING IN TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS  
10 AT STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. WHERE APPROPRIATE,  
11 THE DEPARTMENT IS ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
12 AND TRAINING TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS, ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS,  
13 RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FACILITIES, CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES, AND  
14 LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCIES IN A COORDINATED EFFORT WITH TEACHER  
15 PREPARATION PROGRAMS AT STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.  
16 THE DEPARTMENT AND STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION ARE  
17 ENCOURAGED TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO DEVELOP OR AFFIRM  
18 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAMS IN THE  
19 AREAS OF LITERACY ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS, INCLUDING  
20 DYSLEXIA AWARENESS, IDENTIFICATION, AND REMEDIATION FOR GENERAL  
21 AND SPECIAL EDUCATION.

22 (3) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 30, 2009, AND ON OR BEFORE  
23 JANUARY 30 EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT  
24 TO THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TO THE EDUCATION  
25 COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR  
26 ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES AND STATUS  
27 OF ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING MADE AVAILABLE

1 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

2 (4) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE  
3 REQUIRES:

4 (a) "LITERACY CHALLENGE" MEANS A SITUATION WHERE A  
5 STUDENT IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY IN READING IN PHONEMIC  
6 AWARENESS, PHONICS, VOCABULARY, FLUENCY, OR COMPREHENSION.

7 (b) "RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION" MEANS A MODEL FOR  
8 EDUCATION DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO RULES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE  
9 "EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL ACT", ARTICLE 20 OF THIS  
10 TITLE, THAT PROMOTES A WELL-INTEGRATED SYSTEM CONNECTING  
11 GENERAL, COMPENSATORY, GIFTED, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION IN  
12 PROVIDING HIGH-QUALITY, STANDARDS-BASED INSTRUCTION AND  
13 INTERVENTION THAT IS MATCHED TO A STUDENT'S ACADEMIC,  
14 SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL, AND BEHAVIORAL NEEDS.

15 **SECTION 2. Effective date.** This act shall take effect at 12:01  
16 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after  
17 final adjournment of the general assembly that is allowed for submitting  
18 a referendum petition pursuant to article V, section 1 (3) of the state  
19 constitution, (August 6, 2008, if adjournment sine die is on May 7, 2008);  
20 except that, if a referendum petition is filed against this act or an item,  
21 section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section,  
22 or part, if approved by the people, shall take effect on the date of the  
23 official declaration of the vote thereon by proclamation of the governor.