

**HB430 ENGROSSED**



1 7HB32E-2  
2 By Representative Garrett  
3 RFD: Ways and Means Education  
4 First Read: 03-May-23  
5 2023 Regular Session



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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Literacy Task Force; to amend Section 16-6G-3, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide further for the duties and membership of the task force; to provide for the compensation of members; to provide for the chair and vice chair; and to provide for meetings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 16-6G-3 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§16-6G-3

(a) The State Superintendent of Education shall convene a standing Literacy Task Force by December 1, 2019, to provide recommendations for comprehensive core reading and reading intervention programs, a state continuum of teacher development for approved science of reading pursuant to subsection (e) of Section 16-6G-6~~r~~i; and an annual list of vetted ~~and approved~~ assessments that are valid and reliable reading screening, formative, and diagnostic assessment systems for selection and use by local education agencies. ~~The task force shall meet in regular session at least twice a year.~~ In future reviews, the task force shall add an element



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29 to the core reading and intervention program rubrics to review  
30 content for age appropriateness. The list finalized by the  
31 State Superintendent of Education for the 2021-2022 school  
32 year shall be valid for a period of five years, beginning with  
33 the date of approval. The vetted and approved list of  
34 assessments by the task force shall be valid for a period of  
35 three years, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.  
36 Assessments may be added during that time period, but not  
37 removed. Any changes must be approved by the task force. The  
38 task force shall endeavor to include multiple vendors in each  
39 approved list. The task force shall make public all rubrics  
40 and measurements used to determine eligibility and compliance  
41 for all assessments that applied for consideration. All  
42 appointing authorities shall coordinate their appointments so  
43 that diversity of gender, race, and geographical areas is  
44 reflective of the makeup of this state. The State Department  
45 of Education shall verify that each appointee satisfies the  
46 credentials under which he or she was appointed. The  
47 membership of the task force shall include all of the  
48 following appointees, each of whom shall have at least three  
49 years of experience with scientifically based reading  
50 instruction:

51 (1) The Director of the Alabama Reading Initiative.

52 ~~(1)~~ (2) Two public K-12 teachers appointed by the  
53 Executive Director of the Alabama Education Association.

54 ~~(2)~~ (3) One public K-12 special education teacher  
55 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

56 ~~(3)~~ (4) Three Certified Academic Dyslexia Therapists,



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57 who have been certified for a minimum of three years,  
58 appointed by the Alabama Branch of the International Dyslexia  
59 Association.

60 ~~(4)~~ (5) Two public school principals appointed by the  
61 Executive Director of the Council for Leaders in Alabama  
62 Schools.

63 ~~(5)~~ (6) One local superintendent of education appointed  
64 by the Executive Director of the School Superintendents of  
65 Alabama.

66 ~~(6)~~ (7) One local board of education member appointed by  
67 the Alabama Association of School Boards.

68 ~~(7)~~ (8) One national expert in literacy member appointed  
69 by the State Superintendent of Education.

70 ~~(8)~~ (9) One early childhood educator appointed by the  
71 Secretary of the Alabama Department of Early Childhood  
72 Education.

73 ~~(9)~~ (10) One dean of a college of education appointed by  
74 the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

75 ~~(10)~~ (11) Seven additional members, including two public  
76 K-12 teachers, four of whom shall be appointed by the Governor  
77 and three by the State Superintendent of Education.

78 (b) Members appointed to the task force shall be  
79 appointed to serve a four-year term and may be reappointed to  
80 serve one additional two-year term.

81 (c) The members of the task force shall be reimbursed  
82 through the department for expenses incurred in the  
83 performance of their duties for the task force in the same  
84 manner and at the same rate as is provided for state



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85 employees. Subject to appropriations, nothing in this chapter  
86 shall limit payment for their service.

87 (1) The Director of the Alabama Reading Initiative  
88 shall serve as chair, and a vice chair shall be elected by the  
89 membership of the task force. If the position of director is  
90 vacant, the vice chair shall serve as chair until the State  
91 Superintendent of Education appoints a new director.

92 (2) The task force shall meet at least twice a year.  
93 The task force shall set meeting dates and times, set agendas,  
94 vote, and develop recommendations for the State Superintendent  
95 of Education. All task force meetings and subcommittee  
96 meetings shall be publicly posted along with a complete  
97 listing of all task force members.

98 ~~(b)~~ (d) Each approved assessment system shall do all of  
99 the following:

100 (1) Provide screening and diagnostic capabilities for  
101 monitoring student progress.

102 (2) Measure, at a minimum, phonological awareness, oral  
103 language, the alphabetic principle, including letter naming,  
104 letter sound, and sound letter correspondences, decoding,  
105 encoding, accuracy, vocabulary, and comprehension.

106 (3) Identify students who have a reading deficiency,  
107 including identifying students with characteristics of  
108 dyslexia.

109 (4) Provides predictive validity with regard to the  
110 state summative assessment.

111 ~~(e)~~ (e) In determining which assessment systems to  
112 approve for use by local education agencies, the task force,



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113 at a minimum, shall also consider all of the following  
114 factors:

115 (1) The time required to conduct the assessments, with  
116 the intention of minimizing the impact on instructional time.

117 (2) The level of integration of assessment results with  
118 instructional support for teachers and students.

119 (3) The timeliness in reporting assessment results to  
120 teachers, administrators, and parents."

121 Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately  
122 following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its  
123 otherwise becoming law.



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House of Representatives

127 Read for the first time and referred .....03-May-23  
128 to the House of Representatives  
129 committee on Ways and Means  
130 Education  
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132 Read for the second time and placed .....17-May-23  
133 on the calendar:  
134 0 amendments  
135  
136 Read for the third time and passed .....23-May-23  
137 as amended  
138 Yeas 94  
139 Nays 4  
140 Abstains 3

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John Treadwell  
Clerk