

# HB430 INTRODUCED



1 7HB32E-1  
2 By Representative Garrett  
3 RFD: Ways and Means Education  
4 First Read: 03-May-23  
5  
6 2023 Regular Session



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the Alabama Literacy Task Force is responsible for recommending reading assessments vetted and approved by the State Department of Education.

This bill would provide further for the duties of the task force and would revise the membership of the task force.

This bill would also provide for the compensation of members, leadership, and meetings of the task force.

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:



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29 "§16-6G-3

30 (a) The State Superintendent of Education shall convene  
31 a standing Literacy Task Force by December 1, 2019, to provide  
32 recommendations for comprehensive core reading and reading  
33 intervention programs, of which the content is age appropriate  
34 and aligns with the state's standards and code of ethics and  
35 reflects the core values of the state; a state continuum of  
36 teacher development for approved science of reading pursuant  
37 to subsection (e) of Section 16-6G-6~~7~~i; and an annual list of  
38 vetted~~and approved~~ assessments that are valid and reliable  
39 reading screening, formative, and diagnostic assessment  
40 systems for selection and use by local education agencies.~~The~~  
41 ~~task force shall meet in regular session at least twice a~~  
42 ~~year.~~ The vetted list of assessments shall be valid for a  
43 period of five years, beginning with the list finalized by the  
44 State Superintendent of Education for the 2021-2022 school  
45 year. Assessments may be added during that time period, but  
46 not removed. The task force shall make public all rubrics and  
47 measurements used to determine eligibility and compliance for  
48 all assessments that applied for consideration. All appointing  
49 authorities shall coordinate their appointments so that  
50 diversity of gender, race, and geographical areas is  
51 reflective of the makeup of this state. The State Department  
52 of Education shall verify that each appointee satisfies the  
53 credentials under which he or she was appointed. The  
54 membership of the task force shall include all of the  
55 following appointees, each of whom shall have at least three  
56 years of experience with scientifically based reading



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57 instruction:

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

60 (1) The State Superintendent of Education or his or her  
61 designee.

62 (2) The Director of the Alabama Reading Initiative.

63 (3) Eight members, consisting of four classroom  
64 teachers who teach in grades 7-12 and four classroom teachers  
65 who teach in grades K-6, who are each appointed from a  
66 different State Board of Education district by the State Board  
67 of Education, from nominations made by local superintendents  
68 of education serving in those districts and submitted to the  
69 State Superintendent of Education.

70 (4) Four members who are either classroom teachers or  
71 public K-12 administrators, who are appointed by the State  
72 Board of Education from the state at large, from  
73 recommendations made by local superintendents of education and  
74 submitted to the State Superintendent of Education.

75 ~~(2)~~ (5) One public K-12 special education teacher  
76 appointed by the State Superintendent of Education.

77 ~~(3)~~ (6) Three Certified Academic Dyslexia Therapists,  
78 who have been certified for a minimum of three years,  
79 appointed by the Alabama Branch of the International Dyslexia  
80 Association.

81 ~~(4) Two public school principals appointed by the~~  
82 ~~Executive Director of the Council for Leaders in Alabama~~  
83 ~~Schools.~~

84 ~~(5) One local superintendent of education appointed by~~



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85 ~~the Executive Director of the School Superintendents of~~  
86 ~~Alabama.~~

87 ~~(6) One local board of education member appointed by~~  
88 ~~the Alabama Association of School Boards.~~

89 (7) One national expert in literacy member appointed by  
90 the State Superintendent of Education.

91 (8) One early childhood educator appointed by the  
92 Secretary of the Alabama Department of Early Childhood  
93 Education.

94 (9) One dean of a college of education appointed by the  
95 Alabama Commission on Higher Education.

96 (10) ~~Seven additional members, four~~ Four members  
97 appointed by the Governor ~~and three by the State~~  
98 ~~Superintendent of Education.~~

99 (b) Members appointed to the task force shall be  
100 appointed to serve a two-year term and may be reappointed to  
101 serve one additional two-year term.

102 (c) The members of the task force shall be reimbursed  
103 through the department for expenses incurred in the  
104 performance of their duties for the task force in the same  
105 manner and at the same rate as is provided for state  
106 employees. Subject to appropriations, nothing in this chapter  
107 shall limit payment for their service.

108 (1) The Director of the Alabama Reading Initiative  
109 shall serve as chair, and a vice chair shall be elected by the  
110 membership of the task force. If the position of director is  
111 vacant, the vice chair shall serve as chair until the State  
112 Superintendent of Education appoints a new director.



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113 (2) The task force shall meet at least twice a year.  
114 The task force shall set meeting dates and times, set agendas,  
115 vote, and develop recommendations for the State Board of  
116 Education in collaboration with the State Department of  
117 Education. All task force meetings and subcommittee meetings  
118 shall be publicly posted along with a complete listing of all  
119 task force members.

120 ~~(b) Each approved~~ (d) An assessment ~~system shall do~~  
121 shall be vetted if the assessment does all of the following:

122 (1) ~~Provide~~ Provides screening and diagnostic  
123 capabilities for monitoring student progress.

124 (2) ~~Measure~~ Measures, at a minimum, phonological  
125 awareness, oral language, the alphabetic principle, including  
126 letter naming, letter sound, and sound letter correspondences,  
127 decoding, encoding, accuracy, vocabulary, and comprehension.

128 (3) ~~Identify~~ Identifies students who have a reading  
129 deficiency, including identifying students with  
130 characteristics of dyslexia.

131 (4) Provides predictive validity with regard to the  
132 state summative assessment.

133 ~~(c) In determining which assessment systems to approve~~  
134 ~~for use by local education agencies, the task force, at a~~  
135 ~~minimum, shall also consider all of the following factors:~~

136 ~~(1) The time required to conduct the assessments, with~~  
137 ~~the intention of minimizing the impact on instructional time.~~

138 ~~(2) The level of integration of assessment results with~~  
139 ~~instructional support for teachers and students.~~

140 ~~(3) The timeliness in reporting assessment results to~~



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141 ~~teachers, administrators, and parents."~~

142           Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately  
143 following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its  
144 otherwise becoming law.