

# HB173 INTRODUCED



1 HB173  
2 AB4A7S7-1  
3 By Representatives Hulsey, Collins, Faulkner, Baker, Estes,  
4 DuBose, Drummond  
5 RFD: Education Policy  
6 First Read: 15-Feb-24



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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would prohibit the use of the three-cueing system of educational instruction in the public K-12 education curriculum.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 education; to prohibit the use of the three-cueing system of educational instruction in the curriculum.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. It is the intent of this Legislature to require public K-12 schools to ensure that certain textbooks and instructional materials are not used in reading instruction; to provide for related matters concerning practices, interventions, and curriculum that are based on the science of reading; and to prohibit the use of curricula that employ the three-cueing system model of teaching students to read. It shall additionally be the intent of the this body to establish criteria for core curricula, interventions, instructional materials, and supplemental materials for each state-approved educator preparation program.



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29 Section 2. For the purposes of this act, the following  
30 terms have the following meanings:

31 (1) BOARD. The State Board of Education

32 (2) DEPARTMENT. The State Department of Education

33 (3) EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROGRAM. Any program that  
34 prepares an individual for licensure as an elementary teacher,  
35 school leader, or other school personnel.

36 (4) INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS. The core curricular  
37 programs and materials, intervention programs and materials,  
38 instructional programs, supplemental programs and materials,  
39 textbooks, texts, lessons, and sequence of planned experiences  
40 delivered to all students to achieve grade-level state  
41 standards.

42 (5) READING INTERVENTION. Includes evidence-based  
43 strategies frequently used to remediate reading deficiencies  
44 including, but not limited to, individual instruction,  
45 multisensory approaches, tutoring, mentoring, or the use of  
46 technology that targets specific reading skills and abilities.

47 (6) SCIENCE OF READING. The large body of evidence that  
48 informs how proficient reading and writing develop; why some  
49 have difficulty; and how to most effectively assess and teach  
50 and, therefore, improve student outcomes through prevention of  
51 and intervention for reading difficulties.

52 (7) THREE-CUEING SYSTEM. Any model of teaching students  
53 to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual  
54 cues, which may also be known as MSV.

55 Section 3. (a) All reading instructional materials  
56 approved for use in Alabama schools, whether through the



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57 textbook law or a local textbook review process as provided in  
58 Chapter 36 of Title 16, Code of Alabama 1975, the Alabama  
59 Literacy Act as provided in Chapter 6G of Title 16, Code of  
60 Alabama 1975, or other vetting or selection process, shall not  
61 include those that employ the three-cueing system model of  
62 reading, visual memory as the primary basis for teaching word  
63 recognition, or the three-cueing system model of reading based  
64 on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual cues.

65 (b) Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, if the  
66 board determines that a local board of education has violated  
67 subsection (a), the board shall notify the local board of  
68 education of that violation.

69 (c) The board shall adopt rules pursuant to this act to  
70 establish criteria for any materials used to prepare teacher  
71 candidates to teach reading, including course textbooks, for  
72 each state-approved educator preparation program. The rules  
73 shall require instructional strategies what are scientifically  
74 researched and evidence-based reading instructional strategies  
75 that improve reading performance for all students, including  
76 explicit, systematic, and sequential approaches to teaching  
77 phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and text  
78 comprehension and multisensory intervention strategies.

79 Instructional strategies may not include those that employ the  
80 three-cueing system model of reading, visual memory as the  
81 primary basis for teaching word recognition, or the  
82 three-cueing system model of reading based on meaning,  
83 structure and syntax, and visual cues. Beginning with the  
84 2024-2025 school year, these requirements shall be included in



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85 the approval process for educator preparation programs. If the  
86 board determines that a state-approved educator preparation  
87 program has violated this section, the board shall notify the  
88 Legislature and the public.

89 Section 4. (a) A local board of education shall not use  
90 instructional materials as defined in this act for students in  
91 any grade kindergarten through 12 that utilizes any of the  
92 following:

93 (1) The three-cueing system model of teaching students  
94 to read.

95 (2) Visual memory as the primary basis for teaching  
96 word recognition.

97 (3) The three-cueing system model of teaching students  
98 to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and visual  
99 cues.

100 (b) Each public school shall do all of the following:

101 (1) Ensure that all instructional materials used to  
102 teach students to read are high-quality, fully aligned to the  
103 Alabama Literacy Act, and based on literacy strategies that  
104 are scientifically researched with proven results in teaching  
105 phonological awareness, letter formation, phonics, decoding,  
106 fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

107 (2) Ensure that no instructional materials that employ  
108 the three-cueing system model of teaching students to read,  
109 visual memory as the primary basis for teaching word  
110 recognition, or the three-cueing system model of teaching  
111 students to read based on meaning, structure and syntax, and  
112 visual cues are used in reading instruction.



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113                   Section 5. This act shall become effective June 1,  
114    2024.