

# State of South Dakota

NINETY-FIRST SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2016

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 1198

Introduced by: Representatives DiSanto, Bordeaux, Deutsch, Gosch, Hawks, Langer, May, McCleerey, Sly, and Wiik and Senators Olson, Greenfield (Brock), and Hagggar (Jenna)

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to recognize dyslexia as a learning disability.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 Section 1. That chapter 13-37 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

4 The Board of Education recognizes that dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is  
5 neurobiological in origin. Dyslexia is characterized by difficulties with accurate or fluent word  
6 recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from  
7 a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other  
8 cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences  
9 may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can  
10 impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.

11 Section 2. That chapter 13-37 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

12 Each school district shall offer dyslexia screening for each student that exhibits potential  
13 indicators or risk factors of dyslexia. When a screening indicates characteristics of dyslexia, the  
14 school district shall provide age-appropriate, evidence-based intervention strategies to the



1 student.

2 Section 3. That chapter 13-37 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

3 The Board of Education may promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, to develop program  
4 guidelines for dyslexia to be used to assist teachers, special education teachers, and parents to  
5 identify and assess students with dyslexia; to plan, provide, evaluate, and improve age-  
6 appropriate educational services to students with dyslexia; and to identify potential indicators  
7 and risk factors of dyslexia.

8 Section 4. That chapter 13-37 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

9 The Board of Education and each school district shall recognize dyslexia education  
10 programs as continuing education and shall permit teachers to apply earned hours towards any  
11 general continuing education requirement.