

SB 1491 literacy; dyslexia; screening; appropriations (Boyer)

- Delays the requirement for the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) to develop a dyslexia screening plan from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021
- Delays the requirement for each school district and charter school to ensure at least one K-3 teacher receives dyslexia training at each school from July 1, 2021 to July 1, 2022
- Requires that certification applicants for common school instruction complete at least
 45 classroom hours or three college-level credit hours in additional, research-based
 science of reading instruction
- Requires the subject knowledge test for early childhood and early elementary education to include an examination on reading instruction to prepare certification candidates
- Includes "nonsense word fluency," rather than "nonsense word repetition" in the indicators outlined for dyslexia screening
- Appropriates \$800K from the general fund in FY21 and each year thereafter to ADE for distribution to school districts and charter schools for student screening for indicators of dyslexia
- Appropriates \$280K from the general fund in FY21 and each year thereafter to ADE for:
 - Adding three FTE position to implement the dyslexia screening plan and K-3 reading program
 - o Providing professional development in early literacy for Arizona teachers
 - Supplementing the reading programs established by the dyslexia screening plan,
 a K-3 reading program and reading competency requirements
 - Gathering and analyzing statewide data for early literacy and dyslexia
 - Establishing a regional training model for teacher training and enhancing awareness of the indicators of dyslexia