



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 220

February Session, 2026



AN ACT CONCERNING STUDENT LITERACY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-14t of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Department of Education, in consultation with the Center for
4 Literacy Research and Reading Success [.] established pursuant to
5 section 10-14gg, shall [compile] adopt a list of required reading
6 assessments, with consideration given to the recommendations set forth
7 in appendix g of the final report of the task force established pursuant
8 to special act 19-8, [for use] to be administered by local and regional
9 boards of education, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b)
10 of this section and the guidance provided pursuant to subsection (c) of
11 this section, for the school year commencing July 1, [2023] 2026, and each
12 school year thereafter, to identify students in kindergarten to grade
13 three, inclusive, who are below proficiency in reading, provided any
14 such reading assessments include frequent screening and progress
15 monitoring of students. Such reading assessments shall (1) be brief, (2)
16 be evidence-based, as defined in 20 USC 7801(21), with proven
17 psychometrics for validity, (3) measure oral language, phonemic
18 awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter
19 name fluency and reading comprehension, (4) provide opportunities for

20 formative assessments at least three times, in the fall, winter and spring,
21 during each school year, (5) produce data that is useful for informing
22 individual and classroom instruction, including the grouping of
23 students based on such data and the selection of instructional activities
24 based on data of individual student response patterns during such
25 progress monitoring, (6) be compatible with best practices in reading
26 instruction and research, and (7) assist in identifying, in whole or in part,
27 students at risk for dyslexia, as defined in section 10-3d, or other
28 reading-related learning disabilities.

29 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2026, and each school year
30 thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall administer
31 one or more of the reading assessments adopted pursuant to subsection
32 (a) of this section to students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive.
33 Such reading assessments shall be administered at least three times
34 during the school year and shall be used for the purpose of identifying
35 students who are below grade level in reading and are in need of
36 additional supports.

37 [(b)] (c) On or before January 1, 2023, the department shall provide
38 guidance to local and regional boards of education for administering the
39 approved reading assessments, including, but not limited to, (1)
40 specifying the appropriate grade levels for each reading assessment; (2)
41 allowing approved reading assessments to be combined to ensure each
42 ability specified in subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section is
43 measured during each school year using one or more reading
44 assessments appropriate for a student's grade level; (3) advising how
45 each board's goals, student body characteristics and resources should
46 inform the choice of reading assessments used by such board; (4)
47 advising how aggregate data derived from reading assessments should
48 guide each board's prevention and early intervention initiatives; and (5)
49 requiring the administration of approved reading assessments in both
50 English and a student's native language, if available, for any student
51 being instructed in literacy in his or her native language.

52 [(c)] (d) Not later than February 1, 2023, the Commissioner of

53 Education shall submit the reading assessments and guidance
54 developed or approved under this section to the joint standing
55 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
56 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a.

57 [(d)] (e) The Department of Education may, in partnership with a
58 public institution of higher education, establish a data center to guide
59 the department and local and regional boards of education in the use
60 and effectiveness of reading assessments. Such data center may include,
61 but need not be limited to, tracking (1) which reading assessments are
62 used by each regional or local board of education, and (2) student
63 information, disaggregated by categories including, but not limited to,
64 a student's demographic background, school district, reading
65 assessment dates and scores on reading assessments, provided such
66 disaggregation keeps such student information personally
67 nonidentifiable.

68 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2026) (a) The Department of Education
69 shall develop and disseminate guidance to local and regional boards of
70 education regarding the implementation of multitiered systems of
71 support or response to intervention frameworks for students who are
72 identified as struggling in reading. Such guidance shall be based on data
73 collected from the results of approved reading assessments, as
74 described in section 10-14t of the general statutes, as amended by this
75 act.

76 (b) Not later than January 1, 2028, the Commissioner of Education
77 shall submit a report on the guidance developed pursuant to subsection
78 (a) of this section and any recommendations for legislation to the joint
79 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
80 matters relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of
81 section 11-4a of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	10-14t

Sec. 2	July 1, 2026	New section
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ED *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R* APP

APP *Joint Favorable Subst.*