



**State of Tennessee**  
**PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 833**

**SENATE BILL NO. 2002**

**By Massey, Burks, Gardenhire, Overbey, Harper, Yager**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1735

By Sexton, Powers, Butt, John DeBerry, Akbari, Ryan Williams, Kevin Brooks, Matlock, Ragan,  
Powell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, relative to dyslexia.

WHEREAS, dyslexia means a specific learning disability that is neurological in origin and is characterized by difficulties with accurate or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge; and

WHEREAS, educators need training in effective instruction for students with dyslexia; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-3004(c)(1), is amended by adding the following language at the end of the subdivision:

In addition to other training and resources authorized by this chapter, the department of education shall, within available resources, collaborate with institutions of higher education to formally address dyslexia and similar reading disorders by providing K-12 educators and teachers web-based or in-person training providing effective instruction for teaching students with dyslexia using appropriate scientific research and brain-based multisensory intervention methods and strategies.

SECTION 2. The institutions of higher education shall, within available resources, report to the general assembly by March 1, 2015, how these institutions of higher education are addressing reading disorders, such as dyslexia, in their preservice teacher programs. The report shall include, but not be limited to, specific interventions taught including research-based multisensory language-based strategies and dyslexia awareness.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 10, 2014

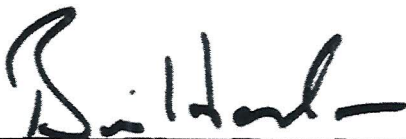


RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR