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SENATE BILL 418

Short Title:	Dyslexia Kindergarten Screening.	(Public)

Sponsors:	Senators Lee, Lowe (Primary Sponsors); Britt, Chaudhuri, J. Jackson, Rabin, Smith-Ingram, Van Duyn, and Waddell.

Referred to:	Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 29, 2017

1   A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE SCREENING OF EVERY KINDERGARTEN STUDENT FOR
3   DYSLEXIA.
4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
5   **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-83.6(a) reads as rewritten:
6   "(a)   Kindergarten, first, second, and third grade students shall be assessed with valid,
7 reliable, formative, and diagnostic reading assessments made available to local school
8 administrative units by the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(a). Every
9 kindergarten student shall be screened for dyslexia as part of the kindergarten reading
10 assessment required by this section. For the purposes of this subsection, "dyslexia" means a
11 brain-based type of learning disability that specifically impairs a person's ability to read,
12 typically at levels significantly lower than expected despite having normal intelligence, and
13 includes common characteristics such as difficulty with phonological processing (the
14 manipulation of sounds), spelling, and rapid visual-verbal responding.
15   Difficulty with reading development identified through administration of formative and
16 diagnostic assessments shall be addressed with instructional supports and services. Parents or
17 guardians of first and second grade students demonstrating reading comprehension below grade
18 level as identified through assessments administered pursuant to this subsection shall be
19 encouraged to enroll their student in a reading camp provided by the local school administrative
20 unit. Parents or guardians of a student identified as demonstrating reading comprehension
21 below grade level shall make the final decision regarding a student's reading camp attendance."
22   **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
23 the 2017-2018 school year.