CHAPTER 153

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 5015

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the State Board of Education to take certain actions in relation to children with reading problems, including dyslexia.

WHEREAS, The State Board of Education has made a strong commitment for all students to learn and perform well in school, which requires a focus on early literacy programs and appropriate diagnostic screening, including the screening of language processing; and

WHEREAS, The Kansas legislature has made a strong commitment to help children with disabilities, including dyslexia, and is determined that all children with disabilities, including dyslexia, be provided help and support within Kansas schools; and

WHEREAS, Federal law requires each school district to comply with appropriate teacher training to meet the needs of children with disabilities, including dyslexia, as required in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; and

WHEREAS, Federal law requires each school district to implement appropriate activities to ensure children with disabilities, including dyslexia, are appropriately screened at an early age, and where appropriate, identified as a child with dyslexia: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, the Senate concurring therein: That the State Board of Education shall endeavor to ensure that early screening or testing will identify children with a reading disability, including dyslexia; and

Be it further resolved: That the State Board of Education shall endeavor to review the partnerships with early childhood education providers to see that reading diagnostic assessments used in pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten levels and grades 1 and 2 will ensure that reading problems, including dyslexia, are identified and analyzed; and

Be it further resolved: That the State Board of Education shall endeavor to review the level and pace of implementation of the best practices of instruction including, but not limited to, the multi-tier system of support in school districts to ensure that reading problems, including dyslexia, are identified and analyzed; and

Be it further resolved: That the State Board of Education shall endeavor to review teacher preparation courses to ensure that knowledge of the best practices of instruction including, but not limited to, the multitier system of support and scientifically-based reading instructional components used to instruct children with disabilities, including dyslexia, is addressed; and

Be it further resolved: That the State Board of Education shall endeavor to ensure that parents have easy access to all information, including appropriate interventions and the appropriate pace of interventions that are recommended by the multi-tier system of support and contact information of school building administrators, school district administrators and the State Department of Education; and

Be it further resolved: That the State Board of Education shall submit a report of the activities of the Board in relation to this resolution and the progress made in achieving the endeavors specified in the resolution and shall submit such report to the legislature on or before December 31, 2009; and

Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Chairperson of the State Board of Education.

Adopted by the House March 25, 2009. Adopted by the Senate March 31, 2009.