

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.  
Act 1016 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas  
2 93rd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2021  
4

As Engrossed: H4/12/21

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1891

5 By: Representatives Dotson, *F. Allen, Bentley, Bragg, Breaux, Brooks, Brown, Ennett, Evans, K.*  
6 *Ferguson, M. Hodges, Hudson, Lowery, Richardson, Scott, S. Smith, Vaught, D. Whitaker*  
7 By: Senator Elliott  
8

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9  
10 AN ACT TO CREATE A NETWORK OF CERTIFIED ACADEMIC  
11 LANGUAGE THERAPISTS TO PROVIDE A SPECIALIZED DYSLEXIA  
12 INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH  
13 DYSLEXIA OR RELATED READING AND WRITTEN-LANGUAGE  
14 DIFFICULTIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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18 TO CREATE A NETWORK OF CERTIFIED ACADEMIC  
19 LANGUAGE THERAPISTS TO PROVIDE A  
20 SPECIALIZED DYSLEXIA INSTRUCTIONAL  
21 PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH  
22 DYSLEXIA OR RELATED READING AND WRITTEN-  
23 LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES.  
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26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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28 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 41, Subchapter 6, is amended  
29 to add an additional section to read as follows:

30 6-41-612. Certified Academic Language Therapists.

31 (a) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:

32 (1) Create a network of Certified Academic Language Therapists  
33 to support public schools for the purpose of providing a specialized dyslexia  
34 instructional program designed to provide therapy to public school students  
35 with dyslexia or related reading and written-language difficulties;

36 (2) Establish and coordinate a dyslexia therapy training program



1 for educators to increase the number of Certified Academic Language  
2 Therapists available to provide diagnostic, explicit, systematic,  
3 multisensory language intervention that builds a high degree of accuracy,  
4 knowledge, and independence for public school students with dyslexia or  
5 written-language disorders;

6 (3) Annually convene the network of Certified Academic Language  
7 Therapists or dyslexia therapists in order to:

8 (A) Provide updated guidance;

9 (B) Create resources for public schools and parents, legal  
10 guardians, and persons standing in loco parentis of public school students;  
11 and

12 (C) Review outcomes data for reading in this state; and

13 (4) Coordinate an International Multisensory Structured Language  
14 Education Council-accredited course to create additional pathways for  
15 certified teachers to develop proficiency in the science of reading in order  
16 to grow the network of dyslexia therapists.

17 (b) An education service cooperative may support the implementation of  
18 this section by providing additional dyslexia services through a consortium  
19 within the region.

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22 */s/Dotson*

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25 **APPROVED: 4/29/21**  
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