

**CHAPTER 866**

**H.B. No. 157**

An Act relating to the screening and treatment for dyslexia and related disorders of students enrolling in a public school.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:*

**SECTION 1.** Subchapter Z, Chapter 21, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 21.924 to read as follows:

**Sec. 21.924. SCREENING AND TREATMENT FOR DYSLEXIA AND RELATED DISORDERS.** (a) *In this section:*

(1) *“Dyslexia” means a disorder of constitutional origin manifested by a difficulty in learning to read, write, or spell, despite conventional instruction, adequate intelligence, and socio-cultural opportunity.*

(2) "Related disorders" includes disorders similar to or related to dyslexia such as developmental auditory imperception, dysphasia, specific developmental dyslexia, developmental dysgraphia, and developmental spelling disability.

(b) The State Board of Education shall approve and from time to time review a program under which students enrolling in public schools in this state are tested for dyslexia and related disorders at appropriate times.

(c) In accordance with the program approved by the State Board of Education, the board of trustees of each school district shall provide for the treatment of any student determined to have dyslexia or a related disorder.

(d) The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules and standards necessary to administer this section.

**SECTION 2.** (a) The State Board of Education shall approve methods for screening for dyslexia and related disorders and techniques for treating dyslexia and related disorders not later than January 1, 1986.

(b) The board of trustees of a school district shall implement a program for screening for and treating dyslexia and related disorders as provided by this Act not later than the beginning of the 1986-1987 school year.

**SECTION 3.** The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 7, 1985, by a non-record vote; House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 157 on May 27, 1985, by a non-record vote.; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 26, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved: June 15, 1985

Effective: August 26, 1985