

**Senator Howard A. Stephenson** proposes the following substitute bill:

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AMENDMENTS**

2017 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Howard A. Stephenson**

House Sponsor: Carol Spackman Moss

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill provides for a supplemental English language arts instruction pilot program in public schools.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms;
- requires the State Board of Education to select one or more technology providers, through a request for proposals process, to provide software licenses for an English language arts instructional tool that meets certain criteria;
- provides for the distribution of the English language arts instructional tool licenses to school districts and charter schools;
- requires the State Board of Education to annually report testing data regarding the English language arts instructional tool to the Education Interim Committee; and
- provides a repeal date.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

This bill appropriates:

- to the State Board of Education - Initiative Programs, as an ongoing appropriation:
  - from the Education Fund, \$200,000.



**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**63I-2-253**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapters 128, 229, 236, 271, and 318

ENACTS:

**53A-1-712**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **53A-1-712** is enacted to read:

**53A-1-712. English language arts instructional tool.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

(b) "Lexile measure" means a unit of measurement that indicates the reading level of readers and the difficulty of a text that can be used to appropriately align reading materials to the level and comprehension rate of readers.

(c) "Licenses" means software licenses for a tool described in Subsection (2).

(2) On or before July 1, 2017, the board shall select as part of a pilot program one or more technology providers, through a request for proposals process, to provide licenses for a supplemental tool for students in grades 4 through 12 that:

(a) enables student reading ability to be reported as a Lexile measure;

(b) uses Lexile measures to appropriately align reading materials and exercises to the comprehension level of readers;

(c) includes activities designed to assess and improve:

(i) reading skills;

(ii) writing skills; and

(iii) vocabulary;

(d) is self-adapting to respond to the needs and progress of the learner, including allowing for increasingly intense instruction and additional practice opportunities based on individual student needs;

(e) provides opportunities for frequent and informal assessments and includes an embedded progress monitoring tool and mechanisms for regular feedback to students and teachers; and

(f) supplements and is aligned with state core curriculum standards related to English language arts.

(3) The board may select one or more providers that provide a supplemental tool that does not meet all the criteria described in Subsections (2)(a) through (f) if the board ensures that the selected providers' supplemental tools collectively meet all the criteria described in Subsections (2)(a) through (f).

(4) The board shall:

(a) solicit proposals from school districts and charter schools for the use of the licenses; and

(b) make the licenses available to school districts and charter schools on a competitive basis.

(5) (a) On or before November 1, 2018, and on or before November 1 each year thereafter, the board shall report to the Education Interim Committee on the use of the tool described in Subsection (2) to supplement and enhance English language arts instruction in public schools.

(b) The board shall ensure that the report under Subsection (5)(a) includes student learning gains on statewide achievement tests as a result of using the tool described in Subsection (2).

Section 2. Section **63I-2-253** is amended to read:

**63I-2-253. Repeal dates -- Titles 53, 53A, and 53B.**

(1) Section **53A-1-403.5** is repealed July 1, 2017.

(2) Section **53A-1-411** is repealed July 1, 2017.

(3) Section **53A-1-709** is repealed July 1, 2020.

(4) Section **53A-1-712** is repealed July 1, 2020.

[~~(4)~~] (5) Subsection **53A-1a-513**(4) is repealed July 1, 2017.

[~~(5)~~] (6) Section **53A-1a-513.5** is repealed July 1, 2017.

[~~(6)~~] (7) Title 53A, Chapter 1a, Part 10, UPSTART, is repealed July 1, 2019.

[~~(7)~~] (8) Title 53A, Chapter 8a, Part 8, Peer Assistance and Review Pilot Program, is

repealed July 1, 2017.

~~[(8)]~~ (9) Sections 53A-24-601 and 53A-24-602 are repealed January 1, 2018.

~~[(9)]~~ (10) (a) Subsections 53B-2a-103(2) and (4) are repealed July 1, 2019.

(b) When repealing Subsections 53B-2a-103(2) and (4), the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall, in addition to its authority under Subsection 36-12-12(3), make necessary changes to subsection numbering and cross references.

~~[(10)]~~ (11) Title 53B, Chapter 18, Part 14, Uintah Basin Air Quality Research Project, is repealed July 1, 2023.

### Section 3. **Appropriation.**

The following sums of money are appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018. These are additions to amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2018. Under the terms and conditions of Utah Code Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, the Legislature appropriates the following sums of money from the funds or accounts indicated for the use and support of the government of the State of Utah.

#### To State Board of Education - Initiative Programs

From Education Fund

\$200,000

#### Schedule of Programs:

English Language Arts Instructional Tool

\$200,000

The Legislature intends that appropriations provided in this section are to be used as provided in Section 53A-1-712.

### Section 4. **Effective date.**

If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.