

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7890

AN ACT

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to exclude certain instructional approaches from comprehensive literacy instruction, to prioritize certain funds to promote the use of evidence-based literacy instruction and supports aligned to the science of reading, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Science of Reading
3 Act of 2026”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROMOTING READING INSTRUCTION ALIGNED TO**
5 **THE SCIENCE OF READING.**

6 (a) COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY INSTRUCTION.—Sec-
7 tion 2221(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education
8 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (K), by striking “;
11 and” and inserting a semicolon;

12 (B) in subparagraph (L), by striking the
13 period and inserting “; and”; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(M) does not include the use of a three-
16 cueing model.”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(4) SCIENCE OF READING.—The term ‘science
19 of reading’ means an interdisciplinary body of evi-
20 dence-based research about reading and issues re-
21 lated to reading and writing that—

22 “(A) identifies instruction in phonemic
23 awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, com-
24 prehension, and writing as essential components
25 to skilled reading;

1 “(B) demonstrates the importance of back-
 2 ground knowledge, oral language, the connec-
 3 tion between reading and writing, and strong
 4 writing instruction;

5 “(C) explains why some students have dif-
 6 ficulty with reading and writing; and

7 “(D) does not use a three-cueing model.

8 “(5) THREE-CUEING MODEL.—The term ‘three-
 9 cueing model’ means an instructional approach or
 10 model that—

11 “(A) uses meaning drawn from context,
 12 pictures, or syntax as the primary basis for
 13 teaching word recognition (commonly referred
 14 to as ‘meaning, structure and syntax, and vis-
 15 ual cues’ or ‘MSV’); or

16 “(B) teaches visual memory as the primary
 17 basis for word recognition.”.

18 (b) STATE APPLICATIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE LIT-
 19 ERACY STATE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—Section
 20 2222(d)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education
 21 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6642(d)(2)) is amended by insert-
 22 ing at the end—

23 “(F) A description of the extent to which
 24 the State comprehensive literacy instruction
 25 plan is aligned to the science of reading.”.

1 (c) COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY STATE DEVELOP-
2 MENT GRANT PRIORITY.—Section 2222(e) of the Elemen-
3 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
4 6642(e)) is amended by striking the period at the end and
5 inserting “, that are aligned to the science of reading.”.

6 (d) COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY STATE DEVELOP-
7 MENT SUBGRANT PRIORITY.—

8 (1) BIRTH THROUGH KINDERGARTEN ENTRY.—
9 Section 2223(c) of the Elementary and Secondary
10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6643(c)) is
11 amended—

12 (A) by striking “grants” and inserting
13 “subgrants”;

14 (B) by striking “grant” and inserting
15 “subgrant”; and

16 (C) by striking the period at the end and
17 inserting “, that are aligned to the science of
18 reading.”.

19 (2) KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12.—Sec-
20 tion 2224(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
21 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6644(b)) is amend-
22 ed—

23 (A) by striking “grants” and inserting
24 “subgrants”; and

1 (B) by striking the period at the end and
2 inserting “that are aligned to the science of
3 reading.”.

4 **SEC. 3. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

5 (a) **APPLICABILITY.**—This Act and the amendments
6 made by this Act shall apply with respect to funds award-
7 ed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
8 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 note et seq.) on or after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act.

10 (b) **RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this Act
11 or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed
12 to—

13 (1) limit or alter the rights, protections, and in-
14 dividualized instructional requirements under the In-
15 dividuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
16 1400 et seq.), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act
17 of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), or the Americans with
18 Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.); or

19 (2) authorize any officer or employee of the
20 Federal Government to mandate, direct, or control a
21 State, local educational agency, or school’s specific

- 1 instructional content, academic standards and as-
- 2 sessments, curricula, or program of instruction.

Passed the House of Representatives September 16,
2026.

Attest:

Clerk.

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