

**44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION,
2000**

INTRODUCED BY
Mimi Stewart

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION TO
RESEARCH AND RECOMMEND A DEFINITION OF DYSLEXIA AND IDENTIFY
EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS AND SPECIALIZED PUBLIC SCHOOL
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THIS DISABILITY.

WHEREAS, the federal Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act recognizes that individuals with dyslexia must
be provided with educational services that address their
problem; and

WHEREAS, the state department of public education does
not have a specific definition of dyslexia or defined
educational diagnostic evaluations or recommended educational
services to address this specific disability; and

WHEREAS, a wide body of research indicates that up to
ten percent of the general population is dyslexic; and

WHEREAS, the international dyslexia association defines

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material]~~ = delete

1 dyslexia as: "a specific language-based disorder of
2 constitutional origin involving atypical phonological
3 processing ability and correlated weaknesses that are not the
4 result of inadequate intellectual potential, instructional or
5 environmental opportunity, motivation, sensory anomalies or
6 other unrelated cause and are manifested by variable
7 difficulty with expressive and receptive language, often
8 including a conspicuous problem with acquiring proficiency in
9 reading, writing and spelling";

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
11 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state department of public
12 education be requested to research and recommend a definition
13 of dyslexia and effective interventions and specialized
14 public school educational programs that address this specific
15 language disability; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state department of
17 public education report its findings and recommendations to
18 the legislative education study committee by November 2000;
19 and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the superintendent of public instruction.

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