

HOUSE BILL 481

**56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023**

INTRODUCED BY

T. Ryan Lane

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION; AMENDING THE READING MATERIALS  
FUND TO FUND ELEMENTARY LITERACY MATERIALS ALIGNED TO THE  
SCIENCE OF READING; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 22-15-8.2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2006,  
Chapter 58, Section 1) is amended to read:

"22-15-8.2. READING MATERIALS FUND--CREATED--PURPOSE--  
APPLICATIONS.--

A. The "reading materials fund" is created in the  
state treasury. The fund consists of appropriations, gifts,  
grants and donations. Money in the fund shall not revert to  
any other fund at the end of a fiscal year. The fund shall be  
administered by the department, and money in the fund is  
appropriated to the department to assist public schools that

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underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

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[bracketed material] = delete

1 want to change their [~~reading programs~~] elementary literacy  
2 materials from the current adoption. Money in the fund shall  
3 be disbursed on warrant of the secretary of finance and  
4 administration pursuant to vouchers signed by the secretary of  
5 public education or the secretary's authorized representative.

6 B. A school district that wants to use a scientific  
7 research-based core comprehensive, intervention or  
8 supplementary reading program aligned with explicit,  
9 systematic, diagnostic, cumulative instruction in phonological  
10 and phonemic awareness, phonics, syllable types, morphology,  
11 semantics and syntax may apply to the department for money from  
12 the reading materials fund to purchase the necessary  
13 instructional materials for the selected program. A school  
14 district may apply for funding for its reading program if:

15 (1) core, intervention and supplemental  
16 materials are [~~highly rated by either the Oregon reading first~~  
17 ~~center or the Florida center for reading research or the~~  
18 ~~materials are listed in the international dyslexia~~  
19 ~~association's framework for informed reading and language~~  
20 ~~instruction] on the advisory list of instructional programming  
21 created by the Colorado department of education;~~

22 (2) the district selects no more than two  
23 comprehensive published core reading programs; and

24 (3) the district has established a literacy  
25 professional development plan [~~describing how it will provide~~

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[~~bracketed material~~] = delete

1 ~~teachers with professional development~~] that includes a  
2 detailed framework for structured literacy training and ongoing  
3 support in the effective use of the selected instructional  
4 materials."

5 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.--Thirty-five million dollars  
6 (\$35,000,000) is appropriated from the public education reform  
7 fund to the reading materials fund for expenditure in fiscal  
8 year 2024 and subsequent fiscal years to carry out the purpose  
9 of the reading materials fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered  
10 balance remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall not revert  
11 to the public education reform fund.

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