

Chapter 125

2026 Regular Session

Subject Literacy and Diplomas

Bill H.F. 4492

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Date May 26, 2026

Overview

This bill modifies the requirements of the Read Act, including definitions, and requirements related to accessibility, local literacy plan, and ongoing review of literacy materials.

Article 1: The Read Act

Section	Description - Article 1: The Read Act
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| 1 | Literacy specialist. [Read Act definitions]
Modifies definition of “literacy specialist.” |
| 2 | Oral language. [Read Act definitions]
Modifies definition of “oral language.” |
| 3 | Parent. [Read Act definitions]
Defines “parent” as a student’s parent or legal guardian. |
| 4 | Identification; report. [Read Act goal and interventions]
Strikes provision relating to screening for students reading at grade level. Requires an English learner to be screened for characteristics of dyslexia according to the vendor’s assessment guidelines. |
| 5 | Parent notification and involvement. [Read Act goal and interventions]
Requires a district to administer an approved screener to students in grades 4 and above who are not reading at grade level at least once per year until the student reaches grade-level proficiency. |
| 6 | Local literacy plan. [Read Act goal and interventions]
Requires a local literacy plan to include a description of how schools in the district will use the school library media center to complement students’ foundational reading skills, beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. |

Section	Description - Article 1: The Read Act
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| 7 | Approved screeners. [Read Act implementation]
Requires a district to provide vendor-approved screening accommodations to students with documented accommodation plans. |
| 8 | Professional development. [Read Act implementation]
Extends for one school year the flexibility for a district to use professional development time to meet instructional hours requirement. States that an educator who was first enrolled in an elementary, special education, or early childhood education Minnesota-approved teacher preparation program on or after June 1, 2026, does not need to receive additional training. |
| 9 | Accessibility standards. [Read Act implementation]
Requires professional development and digital curriculum resources to comply with accessibility standards. |
| 10 | Ongoing review of literacy materials. [Read Act implementation partnership]
Requires the Department of Education to establish an ongoing review process by October 1, 2026, to identify curriculum and intervention materials that are evidence-based, focused on structured literacy, culturally and linguistically responsive, and reflective of diverse populations. Requires the department to use the competitive solicitation procedures in chapter 16C. |
| 11 | Repealer.
Repeals section 120B.124, subdivision 6 (comprehensive review of literacy materials starting in 2033). |

Article 2: High School Diplomas for Veterans

Section	Description - Article 2: High School Diplomas for Veterans
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| 1 | High school diplomas for veterans.
Requires a school district or charter school to, upon request, issue a high school diploma to a veteran who served in the Korean Conflict or during the Vietnam War who was unable to complete their high school education. |
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Article 3: Other Literacy Provisions

Section	Description - Article 3: Other Literacy Provisions
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| 1 | <p>Early literacy field experience. [Teacher preparation programs]</p> <p>Requires a teacher preparation program approved by the Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) that prepares teacher candidates to provide instruction in early literacy to require a supervised early literacy field experience aligned to evidence-based best practices consistent with the Read Act. Requires PELSB to adopt rules regarding the early literacy field experience requirement.</p> |
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