

Summary of Proposed Changes to Rules Governing the Right to Read Act

The proposed amendments incorporate the provisions of Act 606 of 2021. In summary, Act 606 added language prohibiting the use of certain reading instruction methods by public school districts for students in grades kindergarten through second grade, allowing the State Board to order DESE to withhold up to 10% of the monthly distribution of state foundation funding aid if the district does not comply within 60 days of the State Board providing notice of a violation until the district is in compliance.

Additionally, Act 606 of 2021 requires the Secretary of Education to hire and supervise an Education Ombudsman to assist with the enforcement of the Right to Read Act. It provides minimum qualifications, authority of the Ombudsman, and required reporting to the state board and legislature.

Post Public Comment Summary

Following public comment, only non-substantive clarifying, and technical changes were made.