



HB 1423

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to public school student progression;
amending s. 1008.25, F.S.; revising provisions relating to
mandatory retention; providing for mandatory retention at
the end of grade 4 based on reading deficiency
demonstrated on statewide assessment testing and teacher
observation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 1008.25, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

1008.25 Public school student progression; remedial
instruction; reporting requirements.--

(5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.--

(a) It is the ultimate goal of the Legislature that every
student read at or above grade level. Any student who exhibits a
substantial deficiency in reading, based upon locally determined
or statewide assessments conducted in kindergarten or grade 1,
grade 2, or grade 3, or through teacher observations, must be
given intensive reading instruction immediately following the
identification of the reading deficiency. The student's reading
proficiency must be reassessed by locally determined assessments
or through teacher observations at the beginning of the grade
following the intensive reading instruction. The student must
continue to be provided with intensive reading instruction until
the reading deficiency is remedied.

(b) Beginning with the 2003-2004 ~~2002-2003~~ school year, if
the student's reading deficiency, as identified in paragraph
(a), is not remedied by the end of grade 4 ~~3~~, as demonstrated by



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31 statewide assessment testing in reading and by teacher
32 observation of a deficiency in reading ~~scoring at Level 2 or~~
33 ~~higher on the statewide assessment test in reading for grade 3,~~
34 the student must be retained.

35 (c) Beginning with the 2003-2004 ~~2002-2003~~ school year,
36 the parent of any student who exhibits a substantial deficiency
37 in reading, as described in paragraph (a), must be notified in
38 writing of the following:

39 1. That his or her child has been identified as having a
40 substantial deficiency in reading.

41 2. A description of the current services that are provided
42 to the child.

43 3. A description of the proposed supplemental
44 instructional services and supports that will be provided to the
45 child that are designed to remediate the identified area of
46 reading deficiency.

47 4. That if the child's reading deficiency is not
48 remediated by the end of grade 4 ~~3~~, the child must be retained
49 unless he or she is exempt from mandatory retention for good
50 cause.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.