

HB 0797

2004

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

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

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

13 1008.25 Public school student progression; remedial
 14 instruction; reporting requirements.--

15 (5) READING DEFICIENCY AND PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.--

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

28 (b) Beginning with the 2004-2005 ~~2002-2003~~ school year, if
 29 the student's reading deficiency, as identified in paragraph

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30 (a), is not remedied by the end of grade 4 ~~3~~, as demonstrated by
 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 2004-2005 ~~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 5. Strategies for parents to use in helping their child
 52 succeed in reading proficiency.

53 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.