AMENDED

May 24, 2011

**S. 241**

Introduced by Senators Rose and Leventis

S. Printed 5/24/11--H.

Read the first time March 29, 2011.

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO CREATE THE SOUTH CAROLINA DYSLEXIA TASK FORCE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPOSITION OF THE TASK FORCE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT THE TASK FORCE SHALL REPORT ITS FINDINGS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Amend Title To Conform

Whereas, many students with dyslexia are never properly diagnosed and do not receive the necessary specialized educational programs; and

Whereas, it is in the public interest for the State to establish a South Carolina Dyslexia Task Force to study instructional practices and strategies that benefit students with dyslexia and examine the ways in which current state policies affect this population. Now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. (A) There is hereby established the South Carolina Dyslexia Task Force to study and evaluate practices for diagnosing, treating, and educating children with dyslexia and to examine how current statutes and regulations affect these students.

(B) The task force shall consist of thirteen members, composed as follows:

(1) the Superintendent of the South Carolina Department of Education, or their designee, shall serve ex officio and shall be the chairman of the task force;

(2) twelve members shall be appointed as follows:

(a) six persons shall be appointed by the Superintendent of the South Carolina Department of Education, one person upon recommendation of the South Carolina Chapter of the Learning Disabilities Association of America, one person upon recommendation of the South Carolina Branch of the International Dyslexia Association, one person upon recommendation of the South Carolina Speech‑Language‑Hearing Association, one person upon the recommendation of the South Carolina Education Association, one person upon the recommendation of the Palmetto State Teachers’ Association, and one member of the public at large;

(b) three members shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate. Two shall be members of the Senate, at least one of whom shall be a member of the majority political party represented in the General Assembly and at least one of whom shall be a member of the largest minority political party represented in the General Assembly. One shall be a member of the public at large; and

(c) three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Two shall be members of the House of Representatives, at least one of whom shall be a member of the majority political party represented in the General Assembly and at least one of whom shall be a member of the largest minority political party represented in the General Assembly. One shall be a member of the public at large; and

(3) the task force shall organize as soon as practicable following the appointment of its members and shall select a vice chairperson from among its members.

(C) The members of the task force shall be appointed no later than thirty days after the effective date of this act.

(D) Vacancies in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner provided by the original appointments.

(E) The members shall serve without compensation and may not receive mileage or per diem. The task force may meet and hold hearings at the places it designates during the sessions or recesses of the legislature.

(F) The findings and recommendations of the task force shall be reported to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than twelve months after the initial meeting of the task force. The report shall include any proposed legislation that the task force recommends for adoption by the General Assembly.

(G) The task force shall dissolve immediately after submitting its report to the Governor and the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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