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GUILLEN EMPOWERS STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES

Measure Provides Students With Resources & Support for Dyslexia

AUSTIN - State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) is an author of HB 1886, which will require each regional education service center to employ a licensed dyslexia therapist to provide school districts with support and resources necessary to assist students and their families with dyslexia. On **Monday, May 29**, the bill was sent to the Governor for action.

"Undiagnosed students with Dyslexia are falling through the cracks of Texas' current education system," explained Representative Guillen. "With this legislation, we can empower those students, and help build them a stronger educational foundation for the future."

Currently, students in public schools must be tested for dyslexia, however there is no specific time period in place for said testing. This leaves many students with dyslexia undiagnosed until late in their education career. This measure seeks to right that wrong, and will require students to be screened or tested for dyslexia, and other learning disorders, at the end of the kindergarten and first grade school year. Additionally, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will be required to annually develop a list of training opportunities regarding dyslexia, including at least one available online resource, that satisfies continued education requirements for educators who teach students with dyslexia.

By creating better resources for our public school educators to diagnose students with Dyslexia at an early age, we will be able to better provide those students with the educational material they need to succeed in school.

"No child deserves to miss out on a proper education due to a learning disability," said Guillen. "We must address the educational difficulties our children are facing early-on. By updating dyslexia testing requirements and providing better resources for support, we can help those students succeed in school and in their future careers."

Representative Ryan Guillen serves ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, including Atascosa, Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Starr, and Willacy.

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