



2025-2026 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 8.16: Office of Learning Research to Study Literacy Professional Development

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 8.16

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Section 8.16 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) requires the Office of Learning Research at the North Carolina Collaboratory (OLR) to evaluate providers of professional development for teachers teaching students in grades 9 through 12 who are not reading at grade level. OLR must provide recommendations for any professional development providers that align with existing literacy standards in the State to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee (JLEOC) by April 15, 2027.

Additionally, OLR must conduct a study on the effectiveness of Lexia Aspire Professional Learning on literacy outcomes for students in grades six through eight. OLR must provide an interim report on the results of the study to the JLEOC by October 15, 2028, and a final report by October 15, 2029.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

Kara McCraw
Director



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