



SENATE BILL 257: 2026 Appropriations Act, Sec. 7.40: Just Right Reader Pilot Program

2025-2026 General Assembly

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-41, Sec. 7.40

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Section 7.40 of S.L. 2026-41 (Senate Bill 257) requires the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to allocate \$500,000 in nonrecurring funds to certain public school units (PSUs) to purchase literacy packets from Just Right Reader, Inc. The literacy packets must be provided to low-performing schools in the PSU for use in first grade classrooms. The identified public school units include:

- Burke County Schools.
- Gaston County Schools.
- Johnston County Schools.
- New Hanover County Schools.
- Randolph County Schools.
- Union County Schools.

The Office of Learning Research at the North Carolina Collaboratory must evaluate the effects of the literacy packets on student outcomes and report the results of the evaluation to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by October 15, 2027.

This section became effective July 1, 2026.

Kara McCraw
Director



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