



# ROBERT RIVAS

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY

## FACT SHEET

### AB 1454 (Rivas/Muratsuchi/Rubio) – *As amended May 5, 2025* Student Literacy

#### **Summary**

AB 1454 will ensure educators are equipped with the tools necessary to foster student confidence and success in reading by strengthening professional development, updating instructional materials and ensuring administrator training incorporates evidence-based instructional strategies in literacy. Specifically, this bill:

- Requires the CA Department of Education to identify a list of professional development programs for effective means of teaching literacy, primarily focused on educators who teach reading in transitional kindergarten through 5th grade.
- Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to conduct a follow-up instructional materials adoption for English language arts (ELA) and English language development (ELD) and that the instructional materials adopted align with evidence-based means of teaching literacy and the ELA/ELD framework.
- Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to update administrator preparation standards to include training on supporting effective literacy instruction by 2027, with full compliance by 2029.

#### **Background**

In recent years, the state has accelerated its focus on policies and programs that support student literacy. The state has provided significant funding to support literacy coaches; established statewide literacy leads; and supported learning acceleration to combat COVID impacts on learning. Starting this year, schools must begin screening students in kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade to assess for risk of reading difficulties.

#### **Problem**

Implementation of high quality reading instruction is critical across all schools, to ensure explicit, systematic teaching and differentiated instruction that supports individual student needs. Many educators lack effective instructional materials and training aligned to evidence-based foundational reading and language development practices.

#### **Solution**

Educators need the resources and skills necessary to differentiate instruction and ensure that California's diverse student population achieves literacy success. AB 1454 is the critical next step in the progression of state supported literacy initiatives and resources that will improve literacy outcomes for California's students.

#### CONTACTS:

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