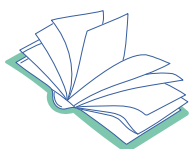


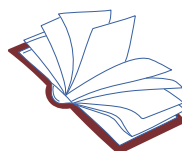
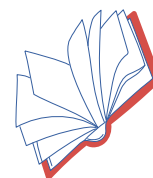
SB22-004 Informational Guide

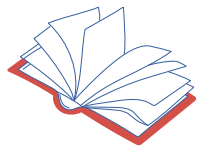


Evidence-based Training in
Science of Reading

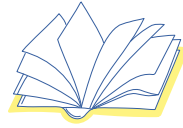


#CLELActionAlert





BRIEF



The bill, S.B. 22-004 - Evidence-based Training in Science of Reading: Concerning measures to support evidence-based literacy instruction for students in early grades, was introduced January 12, 2022 by Senators Bob Rankin (R), Jeff Bridges (D), and Julie McCluskie (D).

The summary of the bill includes the following statements involving public libraries:

“By the beginning of the 2023-24 school year and continuing thereafter, the bill requires the board of trustees for each public library to adopt a policy by January 1, 2023, to support parents and children in improving literacy through the science of reading. The policy must include a requirement that:

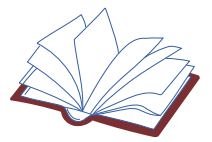
- Each librarian successfully complete evidence-based training in the science of reading;
- The director of the board of trustees maintain an accurate list on the library website of the librarians who successfully complete the training; and
- The director of the board of trustees identify materials and activities for parents and children to improve literacy and ensure that the materials and activities are available in the public library and are updated monthly.

Upon request of a local education provider or the board of trustees of a public library, the department shall provide training in the science of reading to principals and administrators of the local education provider and librarians of the public library for free.

The bill directs the state librarian to work with public libraries throughout the state to facilitate access to evidence-based training in the science of reading for librarians and assist in identifying materials and activities for parents and children to improve literacy.”



ADVOCACY RESOURCES



<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb22-004>

Includes bill summary, sponsors, status, and full-text PDF.

https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2022A/bills/2022a_004_01.pdf

SB22-004 full-text PDF

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eGpAe8CmsbD9yXuBHB242FzPJJOCeIkC/view>

Making Your Voice Heard at the Colorado Legislature

<https://leg.colorado.gov/committees/education/2022-regular-session>

Senate Education Committee Page (meeting schedule)

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy>

CDE Read Act

<https://www.literacyworldwide.org/get-resources/making-sense-of-the-science-of-reading>

International Literacy Association SoR Resources

What is the Science of Reading?

The Science of Reading (SoR) represents an accumulation of research from experts in education, psychology, neurology, and other fields. In investigating how humans learn to read, what skills are needed, and which areas of the brain are responsible, proponents of SoR believe that reading instruction should be divided into three stages:

① Letters and Sounds

② Phonic Decoding

③ Orthographic Mapping

While SoR does put emphasis on decoding text through phonics and phonemic manipulation, comprehension is the ultimate goal. Teaching using SoR methods focuses on Structured Literacy, like the Orton-Gillingham approach, and is assessment driven. "One way to conceptualize reading is through the Simple View of Reading model. This model developed by Gough and Tunmer organizes the skills needed to become a proficient and successful reader into two categories: word recognition and language comprehension."¹

The five components of SoR include:

Phonemic Awareness

Phonics

Fluency

Vocabulary

Text comprehension

CLEEL Member Concerns Regarding SB22-004



"Each person employed as a librarian by the public library to successfully complete evidence-based training in the science of reading"

As stated, this vague component of the bill would require Colorado's 3,462 (2020 reporting number) public librarians to take an unspecified training in the Science of Reading. While staying abreast of early literacy research is important, the logistics of this need to be defined. Not all public librarians work with youth and not all who work with youth are designated librarians.



"The director (**of the board of trustees**) to identify materials and activities for parents and children to improve literacy, which materials and activities are designed to improve reading competency in the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, including oral skills and reading comprehension and are appropriate for kindergarten through second grade and for third through sixth grade. The director shall ensure that the materials and activities are available in the public library and are updated monthly"

- This is often not the role of a director nor the purview of a board of trustees. The director is not required to go through the mandatory training in the Science of Reading, further suggesting that they are not the appropriate individual for selecting materials and activities.
- While public libraries are a place to foster the joy of reading, librarians have not traditionally taken on the role of reading instruction. One undefined training in SoR is not enough to turn a librarian into a reading teacher. Instead, we should focus on providing resources and knowledge about SoR to our communities.
- Providing materials and activities to assist with reading competency in the library is a great thing, but this bill does not include any additional funding to do so. This would mean many libraries would have to remove existing materials and activities in order to comply.

CLEL Member Concerns Regarding SB22-004



Does this bill go against Colorado Library Law or ALA's Library Bill of Rights? If this bill were to pass, what could that mean for future library issues?


- Colorado Library Law does allow for the general assembly "to aid in the establishment and improvement of library programs, to improve and update the skills of persons employed in libraries through continuing education activities."
- The American Library Association Library Bill of Rights states that: "Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval."
- If SB22-004 were to pass, it could set a precedent of state legislative control over public library materials and programming.



If the bill doesn't pass, how can I find appropriate training on the Science of Reading?

- CLEL members agree that receiving training on Science of Reading is beneficial. Colorado schools are already implementing reading instruction based in similar tenants as the Structured Literacy method. To best serve our communities, we should be aware of these initiatives.
- Beyond navigating the resources provided in this guide, trainings on the Science of Reading and related instruction are available.
 - **Reading Rockets : A Guide to Teaching Reading and Writing**
readingrockets.org/teaching/reading101-course/welcome-reading-101
 - **Zaner-Bloser Science of Reading Webinar Series**
zaner-bloser.com/webinar/science-of-reading-series-on-demand.php
 - **The Reading League: The Science of Reading Short Course (\$100)**
thereadingleague.org/other-opportunities/
 - **CORE Science of Reading Resource Library**
corelearn.com/science-of-reading-resource-library/

Next Steps



Follow the status of SB22-004

SB22-004 Senate Page

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb22-004>

Senate Education
Committee Meeting
Schedule

<https://leg.colorado.gov/committees/education/2022-regular-session>



Share with your stakeholders

- Share this document with your administration, other youth serving staff, and library board.
- Be ready to share your thoughts!



Research the Science of Reading



Colorado Department of Education
Science of Reading Resources

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/coloradoliteracy/scienceofreadingresources>

EdWeek Spotlight on SoR

<https://www.edweek.org/products/spotlight/spotlight-on-the-science-of-reading-2021>

Share your thoughts
#CLELActionAlert

