

Bill Summary
2nd Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1778
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Bill Analysis

SB 1778 amends the Strong Readers Act. It directs first-, second-, and third-grade students who are identified as having a significant reading deficiency to be provided intensive intervention services beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. Beginning in the 2027-2028 school year, it requires a first-grade student identified as not meeting grade-level targets in reading by the end of the first grade to participate in a summer academy. If the first-grade student meets grade-level targets during a summer academy, he or she can be promoted to the second grade. If the first-grade student does not participate in the summer academy or does not meet grade-level targets during the summer academy, the school district must place the student in a stand-alone transitional second-grade classroom or promote the student to the second grade while providing targeted transitional intervention instruction in pull-out sessions.

Beginning in the 2028-2029 school year, the bill expands these provisions to second-grade students. Beginning in the 2029-2030 school year, it requires a third-grade student identified as not meeting grade-level targets in reading by the end of the third grade to participate in a summer academy. If the third-grade student meets grade-level targets during a summer academy, he or she can be promoted to the fourth grade. If the third-grade student does not participate in the summer academy or does not meet grade-level targets in the summer academy, he or she must be retained and provided intensive intervention services until the student demonstrates grade-level proficiency. The measure directs a third-grade student subject to retention to be given an additional screening instrument or assessment two weeks prior to the start of the next school year to demonstrate grade-level proficiency, and if the student does so, he or she may be promoted. If the student fails to meet grade-level targets, he or she is to be retained in the third grade. It allows a third-grade student subject to retention to be promoted to the fourth grade only with the written consent of the student's parent or legal guardian.

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