The State Board of Education (SBOE) proposes an amendment to §74.28, concerning students with dyslexia and related disorders. The proposed amendment would require each school district and open-enrollment charter school to report to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) the results of the required screening for dyslexia and related disorders for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 in accordance with Texas Education Code (TEC), §38.003(a).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND JUSTIFICATION: Section 74.28 provides guidance to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools for identifying students with dyslexia or related disorders and providing appropriate services to those students.

The 85th Texas Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, passed House Bill (HB) 1886 amending TEC, §38.003, to specify that a student enrolled in public school must be screened or tested, as appropriate, for dyslexia and related disorders at appropriate times in accordance with a program approved by the SBOE. The legislation required that the program include screening at the end of the school year for all students in Kindergarten and Grade 1. An amendment to 19 TAC §74.28 to align the rule with HB 1886 was approved for second reading and final adoption at the June 2018 SBOE meeting with an effective date of August 27, 2018.

TEC, §38.003(c), requires the SBOE to adopt any rules and standards necessary to administer requirements for screening and services for dyslexia and related disorders under TEC, §38.003. The proposed amendment to §74.28 would require school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to report to the TEA through the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System (TSDS PEIMS) the results of screening for dyslexia and related disorders required at the end of the school year for each student in Kindergarten and each student in Grade 1 in accordance with TEC, §38.003(a).

The SBOE approved the proposed amendment for first reading and filing authorization at its June 14, 2019 meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT: Monica Martinez, associate commissioner for standards and support services, has determined that for the first five-year period the proposal is in effect there are no additional costs to state or local government required to comply with the proposal.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACT: The proposal has no effect on local economy; therefore, no local employment impact statement is required under Texas Government Code, §2001.022.

SMALL BUSINESS, MICROBUSINESS, AND RURAL COMMUNITY IMPACT: The proposal has no direct adverse economic impact for small businesses, microbusinesses, or rural communities; therefore, no regulatory flexibility analysis specified in Texas Government Code, §2006.002, is required.

COST INCREASE TO REGULATED PERSONS: The proposal does not impose a cost on regulated persons, another state agency, a special district, or a local government and, therefore, is not subject to Texas Government Code, §2001.0045.

TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT: The proposal does not impose a burden on private real property and, therefore, does not constitute a taking under Texas Government Code, §2007.043.

GOVERNMENT GROWTH IMPACT: TEA staff prepared a Government Growth Impact Statement assessment for this proposed rulemaking. The proposed rulemaking would expand an existing regulation by requiring school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to report the results of dyslexia screenings for each student in Kindergarten and Grade 1 through the TSDS PEIMS.

The proposed rulemaking would not create or eliminate a government program; would not require the creation of new employee positions or elimination of existing employee positions; would not require an increase or decrease in future legislative appropriations to the agency; would not require an increase or decrease in fees paid to the agency; would not create a new regulation; would not limit or repeal an existing regulation; would not increase or decrease the number of individuals subject to its applicability; and would not positively or adversely affect the state's economy.
PUBLIC BENEFIT AND COST TO PERSONS: Ms. Martinez has determined that for each year of the first five years the proposal is in effect, the public benefit anticipated as a result of enforcing the proposal would be improvement of documentation of results of screenings for dyslexia and other disorders and the ability to more effectively transmit that information between school districts. There is no anticipated economic cost to persons who are required to comply with the proposal.

DATA AND REPORTING IMPACT: The proposal would require school districts and open-enrollment charter schools to report to TEA in the TSDS PEIMS results of the required screening for dyslexia and related disorders for students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 in accordance with TEC, §38.003(a).

PRINCIPAL AND CLASSROOM TEACHER PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS: TEA has determined that the proposal would not require a written report or other paperwork to be completed by a principal or classroom teacher.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The public comment period on the proposal begins August 2, 2019, and ends September 6, 2019. A form for submitting public comments is available on the TEA website at https://tea.texas.gov/About_TEA/Laws_and_Rules/SBOE_Rules_(TAC)/Proposed_State.Board.of.Education.Rules/. Comments on the proposal may also be submitted to Cristina De La Fuente-Valadez, Rulemaking, Texas Education Agency, 1701 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. The SBOE will take registered oral and written comments on the proposal at the appropriate committee meeting in September 2019 in accordance with the SBOE board operating policies and procedures. A request for a public hearing on the proposal submitted under the Administrative Procedure Act must be received by the commissioner of education not more than 14 calendar days after notice of the proposal has been published in the Texas Register on August 2, 2019.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY. The amendment is proposed under Texas Education Code (TEC), §7.102(c)(28), which requires the State Board of Education (SBOE) to approve a program for testing students for dyslexia and related disorders; TEC, §38.003(a), which requires that students enrolling in public schools be screened or tested, as appropriate, for dyslexia and related disorders at appropriate times in accordance with a program approved by the SBOE. The program must include screening at the end of the school year of each student in Kindergarten and each student in Grade 1; and TEC, §38.003(c), which requires the SBOE to adopt any rules and standards necessary to administer TEC, §38.003, Screening and Treatment for Dyslexia and Related Disorders.

CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE. The amendment implements Texas Education Code, §7.102(c)(28) and §38.003(a) and (c).

<rule>

§74.28. Students with Dyslexia and Related Disorders.

(a)-(j) (No change.)

(k) Each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall report through the Texas Student Data System Public Education Information Management System (TSDS PEIMS) the results of the screening for dyslexia and related disorders required for each student in Kindergarten and each student in Grade 1 in accordance with TEC, §38.003(a).

(i) Each school district and open-enrollment charter school shall provide a parent education program for parents/guardians of students with dyslexia and related disorders. This program must include:

(1) awareness and characteristics of dyslexia and related disorders;

(2) information on testing and diagnosis of dyslexia and related disorders;

(3) information on effective strategies for teaching students with dyslexia and related disorders;

(4) information on qualifications of those delivering services to students with dyslexia and related disorders;

(5) awareness of information on accommodations and modifications, especially those allowed for standardized testing;
(6) information on eligibility, evaluation requests, and services available under IDEA and the Rehabilitation Act, §504, and information on the response to intervention process; and

(7) contact information for the relevant regional and/or school district or open-enrollment charter school specialists.

(m) School districts and open-enrollment charter schools shall provide to parents of children suspected to have dyslexia or a related disorder a copy or a link to the electronic version of the "Dyslexia Handbook: Procedures Concerning Dyslexia and Related Disorders."

(n) School districts and open-enrollment charter schools will be subject to monitoring for compliance with federal law and regulations in connection with this section.