



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 349

February Session, 2024



AN ACT CONCERNING DYSLEXIA SCREENING OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE INCARCERATED.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 18-81p of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) The Commissioner of Correction, in consultation with the
4 Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Judicial
5 Department, shall annually review, evaluate and make
6 recommendations concerning (1) substance use disorder screening,
7 diagnostic and treatment services that are available to individuals who
8 are incarcerated during the entirety of any period of incarceration; (2)
9 mental health screening, diagnostic and treatment services that are
10 available to individuals who are incarcerated during the entirety of any
11 period of incarceration; and (3) the reintegration of such individuals into
12 the community. On or before January 1, 2023, and annually thereafter,
13 the Commissioner of Correction shall report on such review, in
14 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing
15 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
16 relating to the judiciary, public health and appropriations and the
17 budgets of state agencies.

18 (b) The Commissioner of Correction, in consultation with the Office
19 of Dyslexia and Reading Disabilities established under section 10-14z,

20 shall establish and maintain a system for screening for dyslexia of
21 individuals who are incarcerated. The Department of Correction shall:
22 (1) On and after January 1, 2025, complete and assess a screening for
23 dyslexia of each such individual who has not been previously screened
24 for dyslexia by the department not later than sixty days following such
25 individual's intake into a correctional facility, and (2) not later than
26 January 1, 2025, implement procedures to screen for dyslexia each
27 individual who is incarcerated and who has not previously been so
28 screened by the department. Not later than December 1, 2025, the
29 commissioner shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section
30 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
31 cognizance of matters relating to the Department of Correction
32 concerning the department's compliance with the provisions of
33 subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, or a plan to achieve
34 compliance, if the department is not in compliance with said provisions.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	18-81p

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.*