

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 7890
OFFERED BY MR. MACKENZIE OF PENNSYLVANIA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Science of Reading
3 Act of 2026”.

**4 SEC. 2. PROMOTING READING INSTRUCTION ALIGNED TO
5 THE SCIENCE OF READING.**

6 (a) COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY INSTRUCTION.—Sec-
7 tion 2221(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education
8 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6641(b)) is amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (1)—

10 (A) in subparagraph (K), by striking “;
11 and” and inserting a semicolon;

12 (B) in subparagraph (L), by striking the
13 period and inserting “; and”; and

14 (C) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(M) does not include the use of a three-
16 cueing model.”; and

17 (2) by adding at the end the following:

1 “(4) SCIENCE OF READING.—The term ‘science
2 of reading’ means an interdisciplinary body of evi-
3 dence-based research about reading and issues re-
4 lated to reading and writing that—

5 “(A) identifies instruction in phonemic
6 awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, com-
7 prehension, and writing as essential components
8 to skilled reading;

9 “(B) demonstrates the importance of back-
10 ground knowledge, oral language, the connec-
11 tion between reading and writing, and strong
12 writing instruction;

13 “(C) explains why some students have dif-
14 ficulty with reading and writing; and

15 “(D) does not use a three-cueing model.

16 “(5) THREE-CUEING MODEL.—The term ‘three-
17 cueing model’ means an instructional approach or
18 model that—

19 “(A) uses meaning drawn from context,
20 pictures, or syntax as the primary basis for
21 teaching word recognition (commonly referred
22 to as ‘meaning, structure and syntax, and vis-
23 ual cues’ or ‘MSV’); or

24 “(B) teaches visual memory as the primary
25 basis for word recognition.”.

1 (b) STATE APPLICATIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE LIT-
2 ERACY STATE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—Section
3 2222(d)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education
4 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6642(d)(2)) is amended by insert-
5 ing at the end—

6 “(F) A description of the extent to which
7 the State comprehensive literacy instruction
8 plan is aligned to the science of reading.”.

9 (c) COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY STATE DEVELOP-
10 MENT GRANT PRIORITY.—Section 2222(e) of the Elemen-
11 tary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
12 6642(e)) is amended by striking the period at the end and
13 inserting “, that are aligned to the science of reading.”.

14 (d) COMPREHENSIVE LITERACY STATE DEVELOP-
15 MENT SUBGRANT PRIORITY.—

16 (1) BIRTH THROUGH KINDERGARTEN ENTRY.—
17 Section 2223(c) of the Elementary and Secondary
18 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6643(c)) is
19 amended—

20 (A) by striking “grants” and inserting
21 “subgrants”;

22 (B) by striking “grant” and inserting
23 “subgrant”; and

1 (C) by striking the period at the end and
2 inserting “, that are aligned to the science of
3 reading.”.

4 (2) KINDERGARTEN THROUGH GRADE 12.—Sec-
5 tion 2224(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Edu-
6 cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6644(b)) is amend-
7 ed—

8 (A) by striking “grants” and inserting
9 “subgrants”; and

10 (B) by striking the period at the end and
11 inserting “that are aligned to the science of
12 reading.”.

13 **SEC. 3. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

14 (a) APPLICABILITY.—This Act and the amendments
15 made by this Act shall apply with respect to funds award-
16 ed under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act
17 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 note et seq.) on or after the
18 date of the enactment of this Act.

19 (b) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
20 or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed
21 to—

22 (1) limit or alter the rights, protections, and in-
23 dividualized instructional requirements under the In-
24 dividuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C.
25 1400 et seq.), section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act

1 of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), or the Americans with
2 Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.); or

3 (2) authorize any officer or employee of the
4 Federal Government to mandate, direct, or control a
5 State, local educational agency, or school's specific
6 instructional content, academic standards and as-
7 sessments, curricula, or program of instruction.

