

## CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Senator Alberta Darling

Representative Jeff Mursau

DATE: September 15, 2021

RE: **Co-sponsorship of LRB 4524-** relating to: the Foundations of Reading test licensure requirement.

**DEADLINE: Wednesday, September 22, 2021**

This legislation updates current statutes related to teacher licensure, specifically the requirement for certain applicants to pass an examination identical to the Foundations of Reading test (FORT) administered in 2012. Effective August, 2022 the administrator of the FORT examination, Evaluation Systems group of Pearson, will no longer offer the 2012 version of the examination. This legislation updates the statutory language to reflect that change by allowing applicants to pass the 2012 version or the most recent edition of the FORT. If this update is not made DPI will be unable to properly license some teachers.

**If you would like to co-sponsor LRB-4524, please contact Senator Darling's office at 6-5830, or Representative Mursau's office at 6-3780 by September, 22, 2021.**

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Under current law, applicants for an initial license to teach grades kindergarten to five, an initial license to teach special education, an initial license as a reading teacher, an initial license as a reading specialist, or an initial license to teach at a school that uses the Montessori method generally must pass an examination identical to the Foundations of Reading test (FORT) administered in 2012. This bill changes the requirement to allow an applicant to instead pass an examination identical to the most recent edition of the FORT.