Agency: UTAH STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Program or Request Title: Repeal of the Interventions for Reading Difficulties Grant

Summary of Request: (briefly articulate the need for the policy change or funding request and the anticipated outcomes)
This request is to repeal 53F-5-203 Interventions for Reading Difficulties Grant. This grant provides funds for districts and charters to purchase and implement an intervention program. With the passing of 2022 SB 127 and COVID-19 relief funds, this grant is no longer necessary.

What is the nature of your request?
Select one:

☑️ POLICY REQUEST – You are seeking changes to Utah State Code to improve your program/services.

☑️ BUSINESS CASE – You are seeking new or additional financial resources to support a program/service for education.

☑️ BOTH POLICY and BUSINESS – You are proposing a new program or expansion of an existing program that will require new/amended state code and financial resources.

Questions? Please contact:
Todd Call (Todd.Call@schools.utah.gov) for questions related to a business case/funding request and
Greg Connell (Greg.Connell@schools.utah.gov) for questions related to a policy request.

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Additional USBE points of contact (as needed):
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USBE Section: Teaching and Learning

If you are already working with a policymaker or member of USBE leadership on this request, identify them below: N/A
POLICY REQUEST
This section only needs to be completed if you are making a policy request (creating or changing existing Utah Code language).

1. **Section(s) of State Code to be addressed (if none, insert “N/A”):**
   53F-5-203 Interventions for Reading Difficulties Grant

2. **Describe the issues or concerns the legislation will address:**
   This request is for the legislature to repeal Utah State Code Section 53F-5-203 Interventions for Reading Difficulties Grant one year earlier than set in State Code 63I-1-253 Repeal Dates: Titles 53 through 53G. In code, this program is set to be repealed on July 1, 2024. This request is to repeal the grant on July 1, 2023.

3. **Describe the history of the issues or concerns including relevant context and timelines:**
   Throughout the last few years, the annual reports from the external evaluator have consistently shown that the program is not meeting the goals intended such as:
   - Student outcomes are not statistically significant in comparison to the matching schools
   - The number of students being referred to or qualifying for special education has not substantially changed
   - Utah’s Professional Learning Standards are not being met and therefore effectiveness has not improved

   Advocates of the legislation, Decoding Dyslexia, are supportive of this repeal. Their board voted unanimously to repeal this code in support of the 2022 SB 127. In addition, with the passing of the 2022 SB 127 last legislative session, districts and charters are focusing on early literacy with LETRS professional learning and evidence-based curriculum to improve educator support and student outcomes. Due to the amount of COVID-19 relief funds received by the districts and charters, there has been less interest and need for this grant as districts and charters can purchase intervention programs with other funding.

4. **What are the suggested legislative solutions? Include code references and suggested language where possible:**
   This request is to repeal Utah Code Section 53F-5-203 Interventions for Reading Difficulties Grant.
5. What data needs to be collected to support this potential legislation? Include whether this data is currently collected and available:
   At this time, annual reports on the grant are available for review. These reports provide quantitative and qualitative data.

Once you have created your business case, please upload it to this folder using the following naming convention GS2023.ProgramName.Month.Year. (Ex. Full Day Kindergarten would look like GS2023.FullDayK.June.2022)