# Ruby - Feature #7376

### Proposal for new syntax construct to define errors

11/17/2012 09:05 AM - kenn (Kenn Ejima)

Status:	Rejected	
Priority:	Normal	
Assignee:		
Target version:		

### Description

=begin

As discussed here - https://qist.github.com/4091803

When we define an error class in a module, we do one of the following two ways.

module App

class Error < StandardError; end class ServerError < Error; end class ClientError < Error; end end

module App

Error = Class.new(StandardError) ServerError = Class.new(Error) ClientError = Class.new(Error) end

IMO, the ugliness of the syntax is partly responsible that not many libraries have custom errors of their own, even when it makes sense.

It would be great if we could write this way instead:

module App

define\_error Error # inherits StandardError by default define\_error ServerError, ClientError < Error # inherits App::Error

Which would encourage define errors.

I realized that the same could apply to empty class inheritance in general, but errors are much more likely to inherit without adding any features - thus naming specifically (({define\_error})) here.

Or, as Matz suggested in the comment:

module App
define\_error :Error
define\_error :ServerError, :ClientError, super: Error
end

this one looks good too.

=end

# History

#### #1 - 11/17/2012 07:23 PM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

- Status changed from Open to Rejected

Put the following code to your program:

class Module def define\_error(\*errors, superclass: StandardError) errors.each do |e| self.const\_set(e, Class.new(superclass)) end

11/14/2025 1/2

end end

def define\_error(\*errors, \*\*k)
Object.define\_error(\*errors, \*\*k)
end

Matz.

11/14/2025 2/2