

March 14, 2014

Good Morning,

Sen. Osten, Sen. Looney, Sen. Maynard, Sen. Bye, Sen. Linares, Rep. Molgano, Rep. Rojas, and Rep. Fox:

I am a Special Education Educator here in the state and certified also in Massachusetts, I have had tremendous difficulty getting testing and diagnoses for my students regarding this topic of dyslexia. I have been unable to help my students with identification for dyslexia and services for dyslexia in the school districts I have worked in during my 21 years in teaching.

I also am a parent of a 4th grader in the East Haddam School District where my husband and I have had a three year inquiry with our EH School District about this very topic of dyslexia and our son's inability to progress in reading comprehension, fluency, decoding, and nonsense decoding as well as spelling and writing in discourse.

Our son is currently being tested by the SPED school team and an independent Neuropsychologist at this time. We have had numerous PPT/IEP team meetings this year and we are still in dispute about this topic. We are still requesting an independent evaluation to be done at the Learning House in Guildford, CT. My husband and I believe that the school district has not identified our son and the Learning House would be able to identify our son's linguistically and reading barriers. We believe the Learning House would identify and create an individualized reading plan for our son to share with our school district to ensure our son's educational IEP for reading, spelling, and writing interventions would be tailored to his specific reading and writing barriers .

We completely agree with this proposed Bill No. 120 to define dyslexia, add professional development for educators, detection and intervention, and to amend the current IEP form to include dyslexia for services.

Thank you for your attention to this very important topic of dyslexia for Connecticut educators, our student populations, and our families that are educated in public school throughout our state.

Sincerely,

Micheline and Daniel Gugliotti  
33rd District educator and parents