

MARCH 2, 2016

My name is William T. Supple, I am a life long residents within the State of Connecticut and reside in Haddam, CT. I am in support of Senate Bill No. 317, An Act Concerning Dyslexia, with an amendment to align the entire remedial reading endorsement with proven practices and evidence-based interventions.

It is hard to believe that since I was in the public school system in Hartford, Connecticut we still haven't implemented appropriate reading interventions for kids with Dyslexia. When I was in school I struggled with reading and spelling. I thought I was the problem. Ten years ago, I was given the diagnosis of Dyslexia and learned it wasn't me it was an "instructional disability". It solidified the fact that I wasn't stupid – I just needed to be instructed differently than "the public school system" method.

My grandson has experienced the same experiences as I did. How frightening to think this inability to teach teachers how to meet the literacy needs of students with Dyslexia still persists 50 years later!

WHAT are we waiting for? Looking to the science and adopting evidence-based practices in teacher preparation can stem the implications to society and the emotional effects on our students. We should not wait for another generation to pass through the halls of our schools wondering, "Is it me?"

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