

My name is Jesse Burks, I live in East Haddam, Connecticut. I no longer go to school in East Haddam because my teachers did not know how to work with me and teach me so I could understand the material. My teachers did not understand what Dyslexia meant. My mom and me have talked to you in Hartford a bunch of times and we know you are trying to make things better but it is taking a long time and I have to go to school every day. Being somewhere where I was made to feel stupid did not work for me. Being pulled out and tossed around left me confused and upset more days than not. It was a real problem.

My family found a better solution. Until teachers in our schools can get the training they need I have to do what is right for me and get the education I want. My mom said this bill you are talking about would give training to new teachers. Will it also train the ones that are there now the ones that dont know how to teach me and others like me? Any training is good but real training that gives them real understanding of HOW TO TEACH to students with Dyslexia is super important.

If you can make the day better for students with Dyslexia with this bill then I fully support HB 7254, An Act Requiring Special Education Teachers to Complete a Program of Study in Evidence-Based Structured Literacy Interventions for Students with Dyslexia. I am asking that you, too, put your full support behind this bill.

- HB 7254 calls for a "Program of Study" in Dyslexia, for special educators within Institutes of Higher Education.
- HB 7254 aligns teacher preparation for special educators with evidence-based structured literacy, along with a requirement for supervised practicum hours, which is critical.
- HB 7254 allows special education teachers to receive Dyslexia training as pre-service teacher candidates, before they graduate and reach our local school districts. HB 7254 is essential to meet the critical needs of students with Dyslexia.

Thanks

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