

Hi, my name is Hope Lapierre and I live in Amston, Connecticut. I fully support HB 7254, an act requiring special education teachers to complete a program of study in evidence-based structured literacy interventions with students with dyslexia.

When my daughter was in 2nd grade, she was tested for a learning disability (at the time there wasn't a box to check off for dyslexia) and started receiving special education support in 3rd grade. Now she's a sophomore at RHAM high school and only reading at a 5th grade level. The materials are written at a 9th and 10th grade level. It's very frustrating! Every year I get my hopes up that she'll get a teacher that understands students with dyslexia and will make a difference. But unfortunately it's been a long road constantly advocating for our daughter to make sure she's getting the correct educational support, accommodations and modifications in order for her to be successful. Special education teachers need a program of study in dyslexia within higher education. Please support HB 7254.

Sincerely,

Hope Lapierre