

March 14, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Julie McMahon, I live in Westport, Connecticut. 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 have four sons, all growing up and dealing with various learning challenges. Three of my four sons have been able to attend our Westport Public Schools, benefitting from IEP's and resource support. Unfortunately, our fourth son has required placement in various private schools to address his myriad of disabilities, including dyslexia. Now that my children are in high school, it is imperative that Special Education teachers be provided a program of study in Dyslexia within Higher Education. We should be providing our children with the latest education skills and advancements in this field to prepare them for a successful future.

Dyslexia is not new. It's a real learning disability that requires real skill. Please pass the HB 7254 act – for our children and our future!

Sincerely,

Julie McMahon