

Dear Members of the Education Committee, State of Connecticut,

My name is Nancy Platt Dawud and I am a resident of Wallingford, Connecticut. I would like to convey to you my strong feelings about HB 7254, An Act Requiring Special Education Teachers to Complete a Program of Study in an **Evidence Based Structured Literacy Intervention** for Students with Dyslexia.

This is my written testimony, as I will not be testifying at the hearing.

As members of the State Education Committee, you are likely intimately familiar with the challenges that face our state's students and teachers daily. As such, you know the challenges that students with dyslexia face in school and in life. That dyslexia can present itself in such myriad ways can make the detection and instruction of many dyslexic students as unique as the children themselves.

However, this is really only half of the problem that you are addressing. The other component to the service, remediation and general education of each dyslexic student lies in their teachers. The awareness and preparedness of our teachers to help identified and unidentified dyslexic students, as well as struggling readers is essential to our children's academic success.

Implementing the requirement for Spec. Ed teachers to be prepared for success by requiring an evidence based, structured literacy intervention program of study will allow instructors the opportunity to equip themselves with (hopefully) the best information available to help their students.

I urge you to vote in favor of this act, enabling our state's teachers to acquire the training they need so that they can provide the education that our state's children deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Platt Dawud