

March 16, 2017

To: State of Connecticut Education Committee
From: Marjorie Fuller-Supple
Re: House Bill 7254

To the Education Committee Members:

My name is Marge Supple and a resident of the town of Haddam, Connecticut. I fully support House Bill 7254, An Act Requiring Special Education Teachers to Complete a Program of Study in Evidence-Based Structured Literacy Interventions for Students with Dyslexia.

I applaud this Committee for continuing its efforts to move Higher Education Curriculum so that our teachers may appropriately meet the needs of Dyslexic students. Our Connecticut Special Education teachers should receive the knowledge and tools necessary while in College, before they reach our school districts, and I pleased to see that HB 7254 addresses this critical need.

I am a lifelong resident of Connecticut and married 34 years to a man diagnosed with Dyslexia in his 60s. He has had a lifelong struggle with spelling and reading. His inability to read and write kept him back from promotions and advancements. With his creativity and mechanical talent, he has been able to carve himself a good living and successful retirement.

Dyslexia transcends generations and apparently our inability to meet this student populations literacy needs does as well. Our grandson, who lives in Connecticut, has Dyslexia and has seen the same "instructional disability" encountered by my husband nearly 50+ years ago.

Thank you for the past Dyslexia legislation and your continued efforts to see that our Higher Education Institutions adequately prepare our teachers so that they may meet the needs of ALL students, including students with Dyslexia.

Thank you for making a difference in our Connecticut children lives.

Marjorie Fuller-Supple Haddam, CT