

Tiffany Uliano
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214 Main St.
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March 15, 2017

Re: HB 7254

To the Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Tiffany Uliano, and I live in Shelton, 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 submit my testimony as an educator who has worked with dyslexic children for the past 3 years.

Working at EHSS the past three years with students who struggle greatly from dyslexia has changed my life. Going through the appropriate training for literacy interventions is crucial to both teachers and students. This is because it is very important to understand how the brain works and functions with reading when a child has dyslexia. This will ultimately lead to nothing but great success with reading in school. I have seen such great success from the immense amount of training I have received to better teach my students. This is very important to special education teachers to have to get the correct training through literacy interventions.

I am in full support of the call of HB 7254 for a "Program of Study" in Dyslexia for special educators within Institutes of Higher Education; for teacher preparation for special educators with evidence-based structured literacy, along with a requirement for supervised practicum hours, which is critical; and, to allow for special education teachers to receive Dyslexia training as pre-service teacher candidates, before they graduate and reach our local school districts. Those steps are essential to meet the critical needs of students with Dyslexia and would benefit all learners in the State of Connecticut.

It is with a great sense of urgency that I respectfully request that you pass HB 7254. It is only through the use of the evidence-based approaches coupled with the right training and practicum experiences that we will see changes in reading outcomes in our schools.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Tiffany Uliano