

Dear Senator,

Please support HB 2602 that creates a Dyslexia task force. Our 7th grade son was finally diagnosed with Dyslexia at the end of his 5th grade year only because a NEW school Psychologist recognized a pattern in his basic classroom testing. This was after years of failure and years of us asking teachers for help, years of out of school tutoring, and testing and many MANY visits to therapists and counselors to try to get help for our boy. Not one educator in our very good public school mentioned Dyslexia. It was simply not on their (or our) radar. When we had him tested (privately as the school would and cannot do this) he was identified as severely dyslexic. Because he is so intelligent, he was somehow able to squeak by these teachers who just couldn't figure him out. By the time he was diagnosed he was YEARS behind his peers and his self esteem and emotional state was rock bottom.

If our teachers knew what Dyslexia is, and knew how to identify it we would have gotten help SO MUCH SOONER, he wouldn't have "waited to fail" and had such a miserable elementary school experience.

We pulled him out of public school for Middle School and are spending his college savings for him to get help at a private school for children with Dyslexia and learning disabilities. He will likely need to go back to public school in high school as the expense of this school is just too great. The thought of putting this kid back in to the mix of teachers who have NO IDEA what he struggles with is awful. These teachers need training and education to help this population of students.

Please help us by supporting HB 2602. It is a start to help kids like this who have so much potential.

Thank you,  
Maura

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Maura Coleman-Murray

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