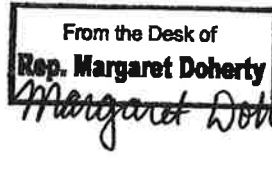


HB 2412



April 21, 2015

Dear Honorable Representatives,

According to the National Institutes of Health, as many as 1 in 5 students have dyslexia, and yet Oregon's universities do not provide teacher training on how to effectively teach these bright, eager and capable students. This is not only an Oregon issue, but one of national concern. <http://dyslexia.yale.edu/whatAboutDyslexia.html>

We focus on dyslexia because:

- Dyslexia is a reading disorder that is often inherited and affects an estimated 15-20% of children. The Yale Center for Dyslexia and Creativity
- Dyslexia is the most common learning disability. Approximately 80% of children with learning disabilities have dyslexia. National Center for Learning Disabilities.
- Literacy is a critical skill needed for educational success and students who do not read at grade level by third grade are four times more likely not to graduate from high school with a diploma. Annie E. Casey Foundation

**House Bill 2412** will require teacher education institutions and teacher education programs to provide coursework on dyslexia. This section of HB 2412 is important to ensure that all teachers have the tools they need to help students with dyslexia succeed. Specifically:

- HB 2412 requires all Oregon educator preparation programs that prepare teacher candidates to be elementary education, special education, early childhood and/or reading teachers to provide instruction on dyslexia.
- This instruction must be consistent with international dyslexia standards which must be adopted by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission. The educator preparation programs must comply with the dyslexia standards adopted by the Commission no later than December 31, 2016.
- The Teacher Standards and Practices Commission may deny state approval to a college or university preparation program in elementary education, special education, early childhood and/or reading if the preparation program does not comply with the dyslexia requirements adopted by the Commission.
- HB 2412 also requires TSPC to adopt the dyslexia standards into rule in a timely manner and to report to the interim education committees on the adoption of standards by October 1, 2016.

*We believe that addressing dyslexia is essential if Oregon is to achieve its goal of all students reading at grade level by third grade.*

[www.decodingdyslexiaor.org](http://www.decodingdyslexiaor.org)

