

Senate Education Committee
March 30, 2017

Chairman Roblan and members of the committee

I am Cathy Wyrick M.S., 4819 SW Vermont Portland OR 97219, Accredited Training Fellow, Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators.
Opposed SB 221

I have taught teachers and tutors how to bring failing readers to grade level and beyond since 1996. I have a master's degree in special education and am a Fellow of the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators. Full disclosure, I joined the International Dyslexia Association in 1991.

I oppose SB 221 which removes reference to the educational standards and methodology (for Teacher Preparation Programs), eliminating alignment with Knowledge & Practice Standards for Teachers of Reading from the International Dyslexia Association (IDA). IDA standards are important because they represent the scientific/educational consensus on the elements necessary for successful interventions for students with dyslexia.

IDA is the oldest and by far most important and influential group working on dyslexia. IDA brings together nationally recognized neuroscientists, educational psychologists, speech therapists, attorneys, clinicians and educators in the field. IDA conferences are like a graduate school.

The Knowledge and Practice Standards for Teachers of Reading is the result of many years of work towards establishing a useful "common set of professional standards for the benefit of students. ... Compliance with these standards should assure the public that (teachers) are prepared to implement scientifically based and clinically proven practices."

The backgrounds of the committee show the depth of knowledge about dyslexia and experience in successfully teaching students with dyslexia.

Louisa Moats represented the scientific community and has had many federal research grants in the area of reading, spelling and reading disabilities.

Suzanne Carreker represented *The Alliance* an organization which certifies teachers and practitioners for ALTA (*Academic Language Therapy Association*) and IMSLEC (*International Multisensory Language Education*).

Rosalie Davis represented both *The Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators* which certifies teachers and practitioners and independent schools that focus on teaching students with dyslexia.

Phyllis Meisel represented teacher training institutions. She was Director of Reading Disabilities Unit of Mass General Hospital and later Director for 32 Masonic Learning Centers.

Louise Spear-Swerling represented the higher education and the scientific communities. She is a cognitive psychologist specializing in literacy development, an expert in RTI and professor of Special Education at Southern Connecticut State University.

Barbara Wilson represented teacher training programs. She is founder of The Wilson Training system is a Fellow in AOGPE.

Please make sure these Knowledge and Standards developed by IDA are retained so programs crucial for the success of Oregon's efforts to teach all students can succeed.

Thank You for the opportunity to testify.

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