

Submitter: Rene Hendricks  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Education  
Measure: HB3454

Thank you for all of your time and service.

I'm writing as a product of public education, supporter of public education, and champion for future generations. The science of reading has been out several decades, with Yale having its own dyslexia center. It is time that Oregon catches up to ensure the professional teachers are trained to support the science of reading and writing.

Our own nations report card shows that on a particular measure 1/3 of students are not reading to learn by the time they enter 4th grade. These students fall farther and further behind their peers. This has been known as a pipeline to prison.

It is time we build a pipeline to productivity.

Look to other states school districts, where teachers have time, colleagues and support to come along side a struggling pupil and help empower the pupil to track their own growth and apply the science to their learning. They come side-by-side with student teachers, who do several years of internships while gaining the skills, knowledge and experience to join the workforce upon graduation as a competent and networked teacher. Honor the role of a nurse who can assess visual tracking or convergence/divergence insufficiency or impacts of hard to notice hearing issues; then support family access to appropriate medical intervention.

Please support early literacy; it is the foundation of a child's future in the Information Age.