

Submitter: Marilyn Bergen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure: HB3198

As a former elementary school teacher and a parent, I highly recommend that research based best practices be used to teach reading to young children. This should be a statewide initiative, not left up to each school district to choose best practices or something else. Far too many children have received 'something else', including my own son who was reading at only a grade one level when he started third grade. Fortunately, we were able to afford tutoring, to bring him up to grade level because the tutor used phonics and other practices that support decoding words. Not all families can afford tutoring, or even understand how far behind their child is in reading. Just look at Oregon's statistics for how many children score far below grade level in reading. We are currently failing our children. Many Oregon teachers don't even know what the research shows or how best to teach reading. Please make research based reading practices mandatory throughout the state so all of our children have a solid chance to learn how to read. Marilyn Bergen