

Date March 5, 2025

Dear Chair Cwodsinski and Senate Education Policy Committee Members,

My name is Jennifer Jackson, my child attends school in the Mounds View School District and I live in Arden Hills, MN.

I am writing to you as a concerned parent on behalf of my dyslexic child and all struggling readers to urge you to support the SF1842 that requires teachers to receive two hours of professional development on dyslexia for teacher licensure requirements. My daughter was diagnosed just before middle school, but despite having an IEP, she continued to struggle because many of her teachers lacked an understanding of dyslexia.

She often faced frustration and anxiety when teachers simply wrote out instructions without explaining them, assuming she could read and comprehend them like her peers. When she asked for clarification, some teachers misunderstood her needs, thinking she wasn't paying attention or was being difficult, when in reality, she was trying her best but lacked the support she needed. She fell further behind because assignments weren't broken down in a way that made sense to her, leading to feelings of failure and discouragement.

No child should have to experience this. If teachers were properly trained to recognize and accommodate dyslexic students, struggling readers like my daughter would have a better chance at success. I urge you to pass this legislation so that all children with dyslexia receive the understanding and support they deserve.

Respectfully,

*Jennifer Jackson*