

Dear House Education Committee,

I'd like to address some of the myths that I've heard within testimony in the past two months.

I will take the example of Libby Bonesteel, Superintendent of the Montpelier-Roxbury District. Dyslexia Screeners do not have to be expensive, time consuming, or administered by a Special Educator or School Psychologist.

Dyslexia screeners are simple, should not take more than 30 minutes, and should be minimized to 10-20 minutes. A general education teacher, a reading specialist or even a support staff can administer these screeners. Under ACT 173, identifying children that are at risk for reading difficulties, which could include dyslexia, could fall into a Tier 2 remediation. Those that need additional support would then move onto a more comprehensive assessment, then administered by a special education teacher and/or School Psychologist.

It's concerning to me that every single expert testimony that you have heard thus far is greatly misguided on what a dyslexia screener actually is.

While the link below is on the IDA, it is written by Dr Nadine Gaab, an expert PhD that has researched, spoken to the importance of, and created an affordable app for dyslexia screener, and has offered to come testify to the House Education Committee.

Thank you for your time,

Marylynne Strachan

<https://dyslexiaida.org/its-a-myth-that-young-children-cannot-be-screened-for-dyslexia/>