Presentation to ED Committee on H.101

Literacy Outcomes

Being literate is a multi faceted, complex, skill set that is absolutely essential to master in order to, not only to access the full range of educational opportunities, but also to truly and fully participate in our own lives as well as the lives of our family, our community, our country and the world.

NYT-"When we speak of literacy and literacy promotion, we need to acknowledge how much literacy encompasses. Yes, it is a key to success in school, with all that implies about life trajectory, earning power and socio economic status. It is also a key to citizenship and enfranchisement in a society, to your ability to understand and take part in all the discourse that shapes your community and your country and your world. It's the product of a whole range of brain circuits from vocabulary and vision and visual processing to memory and meaning.

"Literacy involves all aspects of language-our oral language, what we hear and say, and our written language, what we read and write-language by ear, eye, mouth, and hand" Dr. Beringer

Last year when our Committee heard the testimony from mother's whose struggling children were in middle school and high school and still couldn't read-they understood the outcomes and opportunities that their child would be denied if these deficits were not rectified.

The intent (Committee's Intent) in reviving the Literacy bill is to actualize the recommendations found in the DMG report "Students Who Struggle". Nate Levenson, through his expertise, knowledge, and understandings has provided us with a clear, measurable, and attainable road map to address the challenges that struggling students encounter. Implementing the recommendations outlined in the DMG report, using data to inform instruction, and following up on identified students progression through higher grades, will give these students the best path to become literate, and hopefully, successful citizens.

Show "Building Bright Futures" report page 34 Central Vermont 5,805 students Note:

Children Living in Poverty

2019-3rd grade reading proficiency score

K scores and 3rd grade scores-discrepancy

Range in "proficiencies" across Unions/Districts