



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
House of Representatives
State House, Boston 02133-1020

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June 17, 2015

The Honorable Sonia Chang-Diaz, Chair
The Honorable Alice Hanlon Peisch, Chair
Joint Committee on Education
State House, Room 473G
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairwoman *Sonia* + *Alice* Chang-Diaz and Chairwoman Peisch:

Due to a scheduling conflict, I am unable to appear at today's hearing to testify in favor of Representative Peisch's bill, H463, *An Act relative to providing screening for dyslexia*.

This legislation defines dyslexia in the Massachusetts General Laws and requires that no later than the first semester of second grade all students will be screened for potential indicators of dyslexia or other reading disabilities. The bill requires that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education promulgate regulations with regard to screening procedures or instruments to identify students who potentially are dyslexic or have another reading disability. The Commonwealth is known as a leader in education and this will help further our great commitment academics.

I would, therefore, urge that you report this favorably to the General Court, and encourage you to contact me if I may be of any further assistance in the consideration of this bill.

With warmest personal regards, I remain
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Louis L. Kafka".

LOUIS L. KAFKA
State Representative