

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY SENATOR APPEL

A RESOLUTION

To recognize October 2017 as Dyslexia Awareness Month and to urge and request schools and state and local educational agencies to address the significant educational implications of dyslexia.

WHEREAS, dyslexia is defined as an unexpected difficulty in reading for an individual who has the intelligence to be a much better reader; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia is most commonly due to a difficulty in phonological processing, which is the appreciation of the individual sounds of spoken language; phonological processing affects the ability of an individual to speak, read, spell, and often, learn a second language; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia is the most common learning disability and affects between eighty to ninety percent of all individuals who have a learning disability; and

WHEREAS, dyslexia is highly prevalent and persistent; it affects one out of every five persons; and

WHEREAS, the paradox of dyslexia is that individuals who have the disability may have weaknesses in decoding that result in difficulties in accurate or fluent word recognition, yet these individuals may exhibit strengths in the higher-level cognitive functions of reasoning, critical thinking, concept formation, or problem solving; and

WHEREAS, great progress has been made in understanding dyslexia on a scientific level, including the epidemiology, cognitive, and neurobiological bases of dyslexia; and

WHEREAS, early screening and diagnosis of dyslexia are critical in ensuring that individuals with dyslexia receive focused, evidence-based intervention that leads to fluent reading, promotion of self-awareness and self-empowerment, and the provision of necessary accommodations to ensure school and life success.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize October 2017 as Dyslexia Awareness Month in the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that schools and state and local educational agencies are hereby urged and requested to recognize that dyslexia has significant educational implications that must be addressed.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE