



100 North Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Chairman Koleszar and Members of the House Education Committee:

I write to you today on behalf of ExcelinEd in Action to express our support for your efforts to improve early literacy in the state of Michigan via SB 567 and SB 568. We are excited to see state leaders taking action to increase the literacy rate and set students up for a bright and successful future.

The science of reading is a body of research from disciplines that include developmental psychology, educational psychology, cognitive science and cognitive neuroscience, with decades of evidence proving its effectiveness for students.

Early literacy screenings catch struggling readers early and often, and evidence-based reading interventions ensure those students get the support they need to become competent readers. Prohibiting the harmful and long-debunked practice of three-cueing, a teaching method that instructs students to use pictures and clues to guess words, has also been proven to increase reading proficiency.

Equipping current teachers with training and professional development grounded in the science of reading and aiding the transfer of knowledge to practice through the support of literacy coaches are key pieces of an effective early literacy policy. Empowering teacher candidates in training with those same skills and prohibiting three-cueing from their curriculum in educator preparation programs will ensure future teachers are aligned and prepared to support Michigan's youngest learners.

Thank you for your hard work on this crucial issue. Our early literacy policy experts stand ready should any questions or concerns arise.

Sincerely,
Rachel Winkler

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ExcelinEd in Action is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization.