

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Jennifer VanBeck <jennifervanbeck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 10:02 PM  
**To:** Legan Rose; Rep. Joe Tate (District 10); Rep. Matt Koleszar (District 22); Rep. Jaime Churches (District 27); Rep. Nate Shannon (District 58); Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6); Rep. Carol Glanville (District 84); Rep. Jennifer A. Conlin (District 48); Rep. Kimberly Edwards (District 12); Rep. Dylan Wegela (District 26); Rep. Jaime Greene (District 65); Rep. Greg Markkanen (District 110); Rep. Brad Paquette (District 37); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 39); Rep. Gina Johnsen (District 78)  
**Subject:** I support Senate bills 567 & 568

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for Senate bills 567 & 568. These bills will ensure that struggling readers are identified early and provided the support they need. Early identification and remediation of reading issues (like dyslexia) is less expensive and much more effective than remediation that occurs later in a student's academic career. These bills will strengthen our education system and help more students achieve literacy skills. I support bills 567 and 568.

Thank you for advocating for this tremendously important legislation.

Jenny VanBeck

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Caroline Stout <carolinecstout@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 5, 2024 3:47 PM  
**To:** Legan Rose  
**Cc:** Alexi Chapin-Smith  
**Subject:** Letter in support of SB 567 and 568

Dear legislators,

Please accept my letter in support of SB 567 and 568. I am happy to be available for any questions I can answer and will try to attend the next committee meeting June 11th in person or virtually if that is an option.

Have a great day,

Caroline Stout

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Lauren Chance <loelizcha@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 3:52 PM  
**To:** Legan Rose  
**Subject:** Dyslexia Bills 567 & 568

To whom it may concern,

I am sitting here writing this because I was lucky enough to be diagnosed with dyslexia at the age of five in Kindergarten, and immediately received support. I had an instructor through the Michigan Dyslexia Institute in Lansing, Michigan. She came three times a week after school. I felt like I was always in school in those early years. I knew it was necessary because there was clearly something different about me when it came to reading and writing in comparison to my peers. My teachers at school cared, but simply did not have the tools or knowledge to approach my dyslexia using science-backed approaches, i.e. the Orton-Gillingham Approach.

The screening I had in Kindergarten that revealed my dyslexia was absolutely imperative to me getting the help I needed. If it wasn't for the Michigan Dyslexia Institute (MDI), I would not have been screened, possibly ever, let alone at the crucial period between K-3. Unfortunately, I know too many friends and friends of friends that were not as lucky as me. Some of which still think they are dumb at 30, 40, 50 years old because there was never a name put on their learning difference, and they were forced through the rigid current reading structure in our public schools that failed them. Time and time again the current methods have proven to NOT WORK. It is affecting the emotions, psyche, and livelihood of so many dyslexic citizens to not put this common sense legislation into place. We know what works, we have the science, and it needs to be put into law.

I cannot begin to explain the difference in my life that has occurred because of actions these bills 567-568 would make possible. I was lucky enough to get help outside of school, because my family had the time, money, and knowledge of dyslexia thanks to The Michigan Dyslexia Institute. It is absolutely absurd that one has to travel outside of SCHOOL to be taught the basic foundations of knowledge--reading and writing--simply because their brain doesn't fit a conventional mode.

This is why I fully support bills 567 and 568 and will only be backing government officials who also back these common sense bills come voting season.

I urge you to listen to the testimonies and science-backed data that show the clear choice on whether or not to pass these bills. I wouldn't be writing this if I didn't get this very same support through MDI outside of school all those years ago. Those people are the experts, and we need to listen to them.

Sincerely,

Lauren Chance, 28  
Concerned Dyslexic Citizen

## **Legan Rose**

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**From:** Rita Turner-Sheerin <turnersheerin@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 2:54 PM  
**To:** Rep. Joe Tate (District 10); Rep. Matt Koleszar (District 22); Rep. Jaime Churches (District 27); Rep. Nate Shannon (District 58); Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6); Rep. Carol Glanville (District 84); Rep. Jennifer A. Conlin (District 48); Rep. Kimberly Edwards (District 12); Rep. Dylan Wegela (District 26); Rep. Jaime Greene (District 65); Rep. Greg Markkanen (District 110); Rep. Brad Paquette (District 37); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 39); Rep. Gina Johnsen (District 78); Legan Rose; Rep. Jason Morgan (District 23)  
**Subject:** Support of Senate Bills 567 and 568

### **House Members on the committee**

I am writing to express my support for Senate bills 567 & 568. As a social worker I have seen the effects of early interventions for children's education and social and emotional supports for youth that do not learn within the usual manner of teaching. Many of our youth can thrive if we offer extra supports.

These bills will ensure that struggling readers are identified early and provided the support they need. Early identification and remediation of reading issues (like dyslexia) is less expensive and much more effective than remediation that occurs later in a student's academic career. These bills will strengthen our education system and help more students achieve literacy skills. I support bills 567 and 568.

Rita Turner-Sheerin

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Sarah Linkner <sarah.linkner@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 12:25 PM  
**To:** Legan Rose  
**Cc:** Rep. Joe Tate (District 10); Rep. Matt Koleszar (District 22); Rep. Jaime Churches (District 27); Rep. Nate Shannon (District 58); Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6); Rep. Carol Glanville (District 84); Rep. Jennifer A. Conlin (District 48); Rep. Kimberly Edwards (District 12); Rep. Dylan Wegela (District 26); Rep. Jaime Greene (District 65); Rep. Greg Markkanen (District 110); Rep. Brad Paquette (District 37); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 39); Rep. Gina Johnsen (District 78)  
**Subject:** I support Senate bills 567 & 568

I am writing to express my support for Senate bills 567 & 568. As a mother of two dyslexic children I see that these bills are critical to ensure that all students achieve literacy skills. Our students have a right to read--without these bills many dyslexic students will not receive the support they need early enough to mitigate years of isolation and struggle. Early identification and remediation of dyslexic is much less expensive and more effective than identification that happens later in a student's educational career. I support Senate bills 567 & 568.

Please feel free to contact me regarding any additional questions or support I can offer to furthering the reading skills of our students.

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Sarah Zagar, Ann Arbor Resident  
Sarah.Linkner@Gmail.com  
734-585-6199

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Riann Palmieri-Smith <riannp@umich.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 12:13 PM  
**To:** Legan Rose; Rep. Joe Tate (District 10); Rep. Matt Koleszar (District 22); Rep. Jaime Churches (District 27); Rep. Nate Shannon (District 58); Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6); Rep. Carol Glanville (District 84); Rep. Jennifer A. Conlin (District 48); Rep. Kimberly Edwards (District 12); Rep. Dylan Wegela (District 26); Rep. Jaime Greene (District 65); Rep. Greg Markkanen (District 110); Rep. Brad Paquette (District 37); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 39); Rep. Gina Johnsen (District 78)  
**Subject:** I support Senate bills 567 & 568

Hello,

I am writing to request that you please support Senate bills 567 and 568 this week. I have an 11 yo daughter with dyslexia who has struggled with reading and spelling since the age of 5. The teachers and school system were unable to identify that she had dyslexia and get her the support she needed/needs. I was able to get an outside diagnosis and have been able to provide expensive outside tutoring for my daughter, but there are many children in Michigan whose families would be unable to provide this type of support for their students. We need earlier testing, accurate diagnoses and appropriate interventions in order to help these kids be successful. I believe this is something we are capable of, but currently are failing miserably. These bills are a good first step towards making sure no student gets left behind. I implore you to support this important legislation and require the schools to make much needed changes that will help our students be successful in the classroom and become lifelong readers/learners.

Best,  
Riann Smith

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Riann Palmieri-Smith, Ph.D., ATC, FNATA, FNAK  
Professor  
School of Kinesiology  
Department of Orthopaedic Surgery  
Co-Director, Orthopedic Rehabilitation & Biomechanics Laboratory  
University of Michigan  
Rm 1230, 830 N. University Avenue  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1084  
Office: 734-615-3154  
Fax: 734-936-1925  
Email: [riannp@umich.edu](mailto:riannp@umich.edu)

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Joanne Pierson <Pierson@3-li.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 10, 2024 11:08 AM  
**To:** Legan Rose  
**Subject:** support Senate bills 567 & 568

To whom it may concern,

Please register (and forward) my support for Senate bills 567 & 568. Our students with dyslexia and other reading disorders deserve better, and these bills are a move in the right direction.

Thank you for your energy and time on behalf of these students and families.

Kind regards,  
Joanne Marttila Pierson

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Joanne Marttila Pierson, Ph.D., CCC-SLP  
Co-Founder, *Literacy, Language, and Learning Institute (3LI)*  
2010 Hogback Road, Suite 1  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Ph: 734.973.6001  
Fax: 734.973.0750

Website: <http://3-li.org/>

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DyslexiaHelp

[www.dyslexiahelp.umich.edu](http://www.dyslexiahelp.umich.edu)  
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Privacy of email communications with me cannot be fully assured. This email may contain information that is confidential and is intended only for the use of the person to whom it is addressed. If you received this email in error, please inform me as soon as possible and be aware that any use or disclosure of it is strictly prohibited. Thank you.

## Legan Rose

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**From:** Rebecca Kung <rlippmann3@netscape.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 8, 2024 1:41 PM  
**To:** Legan Rose  
**Subject:** I support Senate bills 567 and 568

I am the mother of a 16-year-old who was only diagnosed with dyslexia when she was 13 and I finally got fed up with the school ignoring my concerns. I had to pay privately for her evaluation and many families would not be able to afford that. I am extremely frustrated, since she could have avoided so many problems and be so much farther ahead if she had just been diagnosed earlier. Her self-worth and mental health, as well as academic progress have been harmed by not being diagnosed in early elementary school, when all the classic signs were there. Please pass this bill to help our kids.

Rebecca Kung  
Grosse Ile, MI



## Legan Rose

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**From:** Deb <lilypad917@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 9, 2024 5:12 PM  
**To:** Rep. Joe Tate (District 10); Rep. Matt Koleszar (District 22); Rep. Jaime Churches (District 27); Rep. Nate Shannon (District 58); Rep. Regina Weiss (District 6); Rep. Carol Glanville (District 84); Rep. Jennifer A. Conlin (District 48); Rep. Kimberly Edwards (District 12); Rep. Dylan Wegela (District 26); Rep. Jaime Greene (District 65); Rep. Greg Markkanen (District 110); Rep. Brad Paquette (District 37); Rep. Pauline Wendzel (District 39); Rep. Gina Johnsen (District 78); Legan Rose  
**Subject:** SB 567 and SB 568

I am writing to express my support for these bills which MUST be passed for the well-being of all the students in our state struggling to read because they have Dyslexia. Statistics show that 20% of the population has some form of dyslexia, yet Michigan is one of the FEW states that does not train teachers how to recognize or test for it, nor how to help and support these children who do not learn to read by traditional (and often very ineffective) methods.

My son was diagnosed with dyslexia and dysgraphia 35 years ago through the Beaumont Center for Growth and Development and the schools he attended had no idea how to help him, so we had to find private tutors outside the districts (Livonia and Northville) and pay for it ourselves.

We are now dealing with the same situation with my 9 yr old grandson who attends Walled Lake Consolidated Schools. I am shocked that basically nothing has changed or improved in Michigan schools to recognize and help children with dyslexia in the last 35 years! Again, we had to go outside the district for testing (at a cost of \$3000) and AGAIN the teachers at his school are using the same old ineffective methods of teaching reading and basically not supporting him at all, so we must search for and pay tutors who understand dyslexia and use appropriate programs such as Orton Gillingham, Science of Reading, etc.

Dyslexic children are often very bright, creative thinkers, with many strengths outside of reading, and for them to be ignored, overlooked or given the same inappropriate and ineffective instruction over and over again is just a crime and so frustrating for them and their families.

PLEASE support these bills and give the 20% of our student population that struggles with dyslexia and learns differently, the opportunity to succeed in school with teachers who are trained appropriately to help them.

Thanking you in advance for doing the right thing to help this group of children. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions as I am more than happy to share my family's experience if it helps to clarify anything for any of you before your vote.

Sincerely,

Debra S. Fontana,  
Mother and grandmother of dyslexic children and former elementary teacher  
44706 Aspen Ridge Dr.  
Northville, MI 48168  
248-921-5883