

Proponent Testimony
Jeanine Phillips, Executive Director, MS-Adult Ed, CALT, ALTA-QI
HOUSE BILL No. 2033
February 3, 2025 - 1:30
By Committee on Education

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Honorable Chairwoman and House Education Committee,

My name is Jeanine Phillips, Executive Director of Phillips Fundamental Learning Center (PFLC) in Wichita, Kansas. I am advocating for HB 2033 because it amends K.S.A. 2024 Supp. 72-5153 to require the inclusion of scientifically proven, accredited literacy intervention programs, on the KSDE 2024-2025 Approved At-Risk Programs List.

I am specifically requesting that non-profit programs accredited by the International Multisensory Structured Language Education Council (IMSLEC) be listed on the At-Risk Programs list, as they are designed and proven to teach all children, including those with dyslexia, to read, write, and spell. Excluding these programs denies students, especially those with dyslexia access to effective, research-based literacy instruction. Many programs of promise for students with dyslexia will be included with this addition to the Approved for State At-Risk Programs, Evidence-Based Practices list.

Fundamental Learning Center (now known as Phillips Fundamental Learning Center – PFLC) was co-founded by Gretchen Andeel and myself in 2000 as a 501(c)(3) educational organization with a mission to provide critical educational teacher training, education and resources focused on children with dyslexia (ages 5-18) in the State of Kansas. Since opening our doors in Kansas in 2001, we have provided training rooted in Alphabetic Phonics, have been qualified by the Academic Language Therapy Association (ALTA) to certify participants as Academic Language Therapists and Practitioners since 1996. FLC training programs were submitted to the accrediting body, International Multisensory Structured Literacy Educational Council (IMSLEC), and received accreditation recognizing FLC's programs in 2005.

PFLC is the only IMSLEC accredited body to date in the State of Kansas, have provided 19,075 families, educators and other professionals information related to assessments, training, advocacy, policy or related services for individuals with dyslexia or other significant literacy related struggles. In addition, we have specifically trained 1,043 in our accredited courses, and certified 86 total individuals as Academic Language Therapists or Practitioners.

Respectfully Submitted By: Jeanine Phillips Executive Director of Phillips Fundamental learning Center. jphillips@funlearn.org