

HCS HB 1614 -- BRYCE'S LAW

SPONSOR: Burlison

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 16 to 0.

This bill adds dyslexia to the list of qualifying needs covered by Bryce's Law and allows an initial diagnosis through an assessment specified in the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that virtually every classroom has a child with dyslexia, but even a medical diagnosis of dyslexia does not equate to educational services at school. Getting a qualified professional diagnosis is expensive, the grants could help with that expense or pay for specific teaching methods that work for dyslexics.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Burlison; Kelli Unnerstall; Jennifer Edwards; Franc Flotron; Missouri State Teachers Association; Missouri National Education Association; and American Federation of Teachers-Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.