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SB 102 Testimony

I support the idea of screening children for dyslexia early and applaud Senators Brenner and Lehner for looking out for our children here in Ohio. The science is settled by Yale University research: 20% of people have dyslexia. The minds of our dyslexic children are the greatest untapped resource we have in the state of Ohio. Let’s screen them and teach them in they way they learn best so they can contribute at their maximum potential. What do all these men have in common? Dyslexia. Isaac Newton, Thomas Edison, Steve Jobs, the Wright brothers, Henry Ford, Albert Einstein, Galileo, Louis Pasteur, Eli Whitney, Beethoven, Mozart, Benjamin Franklin, Napoleon Bonaparte, George Washington, Winston Churchill, Picasso, Van Gogh, Charles Schwab, Richard Branson, Ingvar Kamprad (founder of IKEA) and William Hewlett, co-founder of HP. Ohio has thousands of young people with dyslexia who have great potential. The question is: will we help them reach it? 62% of Ohioans (and Americans) are not proficient readers in part because we are not screening for dyslexia at an early age. So let’s fix that.