

Chairman Bird, Vice Chair Fowler Arthur, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee: Hello, my name is Landyn Dotson, and I am a sophomore at the University of Findlay. So far, I have taken two literacy courses, working alongside a coach to gain all the skills necessary for running a successful classroom. I've also had four unique experiences, each varying in duration and academic level. By partaking in these experiences, I have seen firsthand what teaching strategies work for students and what do not. The science of reading is scientifically based research that studies how we learn to read and the best methods for literacy instruction. Aspiring teachers cannot grasp the science of reading without direct instruction in it and opportunities to apply their knowledge to authentic settings. The science of reading is a well-studied area of research that teachers must be able to apply in their classroom instruction. My experiences have also brought to light the varying abilities students may possess within a single classroom, prompting me to develop strategies tailored to accommodate their diverse academic levels. It's hard for me to envision teaching students how to read without the wealth of instruction and experiences I've gained from attending the University of Findlay's College of Education. Please remove the provisions about lessening the requirements for teachers and teacher leaders from SB 168. Thank you for your time.