



October 6, 2015

Committee on Science, Space and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of the Committee on Science, Space and Technology:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we are pleased to support the *Research Excellence and Advancements for Dyslexia Act (READ Act)*, H.R. 3033. This legislation would expand our understanding of how we identify and address the needs of individuals with dyslexia, the most common specific learning disability, by directing the National Science Foundation to invest at least \$5 million annually in dyslexia research.

As the hearing about the READ Act demonstrated on September 30, 2015, there is widespread acknowledgment among leading researchers and practitioners that children with dyslexia can and do thrive in school and life when provided evidence-based instructional strategies provided by well-prepared educators. Parents, educators and policymakers would greatly benefit from additional research in areas outlined in the READ Act, including research that would address:

- Early identification of children and students with dyslexia;
- Professional development about dyslexia for teachers and administrators; and
- Curricula development and evidence-based educational tools for children with dyslexia.

The National Science Foundation has a unique opportunity to make a significant contribution to help families and educators better understand dyslexia and translate this research into meaningful resources that can benefit individuals with dyslexia.

Therefore, we urge you to support the READ Act and support the millions of children with dyslexia, their families and educators.

Sincerely,

All 50 States of Decoding Dyslexia
Dyslexic Advantage
International Dyslexia Association
Learning Ally
Learning Disabilities Association of America
National Center for Learning Disabilities