



**WIBIDA- The Wisconsin Branch of  
The International DYSLEXIA Association®**

As many as **Two in Ten** people have some degree of dyslexia—an unexplained difficulty in learning to read, even for persons with average and above average intelligence.

*Someone you know, work with, or love has dyslexia!*

**WIBIDA wants you to know –**

- In Wisconsin, dyslexia is rarely identified due to inconsistent policies and practices in schools throughout the state.
- When identified, a Wisconsin dyslexic is unlikely to be provided with scientifically researched instruction.
- Teachers in Wisconsin are not adequately trained or given support in delivery of effective reading instruction for ALL students.

**When dyslexia is not identified and treated properly we have –**

- 180,000 Wisconsin school-aged students at risk for READING FAILURE, leads to more school dropouts, delinquency, depression, unemployment, and incarceration. (National Center for Education Statistics-2006)
- \$1.5 BILLION of **extra** health costs are spent statewide annually due to low literacy skills. [\$466 million (Dane County and \$870 million (Milwaukee County)] (CMS, Office of the Actuary, National Health Statistics Group)
- \$10.5 million spent annually on Adult Basic Education in Wisconsin (Council On Wisconsin Statistics – 2006)

**Wisconsin must stop wasting tax dollars! Redirect dollars to establish –**

- New state licensure requirements for university teacher training and in-service support for scientifically-based instruction
- Effective instruction, assistive technology, and accommodations for all Wisconsin dyslexic students and adults

**We need your help!**

*This issue belongs in any WISCONSIN education reform legislation. Contact your legislator today!*



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### What can I do to help?

#### WRITE

1. Log onto: [www.wibida.org](http://www.wibida.org)
2. Select the **Documents** bullet point on the left of the screen: and locate **Legislator Letter**
3. Cut and paste the letter (or personalize the letter) into the legislators website
4. Select **Links** and click on **Contact your legislator** or go to: [www.wisconsin.gov](http://www.wisconsin.gov) , select the **Government** bullet point on the left of the screen. On the new screen, scroll down and select **Who are my legislators?** and enter your address.
5. **Send the letter before October 22, 2009**

#### GO TALK TO A LEGISLATOR

1. Log onto: [www.wibida.org](http://www.wibida.org), select **Links** and click on **Contact your legislator** or **Wisconsin State Legislator, Who are my legislators? website:** [www.legis.state.wi.us/w3asp/waml/waml.aspx](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/w3asp/waml/waml.aspx) and enter your address (this site will take you to your legislators) or go to: [www.wisconsin.gov](http://www.wisconsin.gov) , select the **Government** bullet point on the left of the screen, on the new screen, scroll down and select **Who are my legislators?** and enter your address.
2. Select your legislator's website and call their office to make an appointment to discuss your concerns about dyslexia and reading instruction. Use this fact sheet for your discussion.
3. Follow up with a Thank You letter and reiterate your position

#### JOIN US AT THE CAPITOL

1. Log onto: [www.wibida.org](http://www.wibida.org)
2. Click on October 22, 2009 Rally at the Capitol link for details
3. Purchase a T-shirt at the rally, make a poster or whatever to show your support

#### ENJOY PUBLIC SPEAKING? DO A PRESENTATION ON DYSLEXIA

1. Let us know by call WIBIDA at 608-355-0911
2. We will provide you with an **IDA PowerPoint presentation and Presentation Guide**
3. Reserve a room at a library and advertise
4. Give the presentation and provide us with feedback
5. For a full description visit [www.wibida.org](http://www.wibida.org) and click on **Give a Presentation**

#### EDUCATE YOURSELF AND OTHERS

1. Log onto: [www.wibida.org](http://www.wibida.org)
2. Select the **Research and Resources** bullet point on the left of the screen
3. Share what you know

#### NEED A TUTOR TRAINED IN SCIENTIFICALLY-BASED INSTRUCTION?

1. To get a referral log onto: [www.wibida.org](http://www.wibida.org)
2. Click on **Referrals**