Tim Lamkin

From: Anna Mekki <amekki1955@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 4:26 PM

To: Senate Education **Subject:** Senate Bill 6

Regarding senate bill 6:

I am an early childhood educator. I have taught early childhood for a total of ten years. I have also taught Kindergarten through fifth grade. I have found the children that start school at age 3 grasp letter recognition, text importance and phonemic awareness at an increased pace and retention compared to those starting school at kindergarten.

The greatest increase in reading and literacy skills within my classroom came from using the daily five with intervention from Words Their Way series from Pearson.

For children needing more time to recognize letters and sounds pre-k is vitally important. In essence it is the intervention, thus preventing the need for special education for a greater number of students.

Thank you, Anna Mekki Pre-K Alak School Wainwright, AK