



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**Deb Andraca**  
23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

BAYSIDE BROWN DEER FOX POINT MEQUON RIVER HILLS THIENSVILLE WHITEFISH BAY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 21, 2023**

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**Rep. Andraca Votes in Favor of Wisconsin's Students**  
Legislation to Strengthen Reading Instruction Passes Assembly

Madison, Wis. – Representative Deb Andraca today voted in favor of AB 321, a bill that will realign reading instruction in Wisconsin schools. The bill focuses on teaching more phonics in grades K-3 in what supporters call “the science of reading,” a research-based approach to early literacy education.

The bill includes the establishment of an Office of Literacy within the Department of Public Instruction, which will establish a literacy coaching program with up to 64 literacy coaches statewide. The bill as amended earned the support of Dr. Jill Underly and DPI. Rep. Deb Andraca (D - Whitefish Bay) provided the following statement about the passage of AB 321:

“Too many bills are being rushed through the State Legislature without enough time to hear from our constituents and the public,” said Andraca. “At the same time, this bill represents a step forward in bringing science-based strategies to schools across the state. As a teacher, I know the importance of reading to the overall success and confidence of students.

“I appreciate the recognition that teacher training and support are needed to achieve the ambitious intentions of this bill. The amendment to the bill included provisions that retain local school board control regarding student promotion and keeps parents and caregivers informed on student progress. I am hopeful that this bill as amended will help more Wisconsin students learn to read so that they can read to learn.”

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