

March 16, 2009

Thomas P. Gaffey, Co-Chair
Andrew M. Fleishmann, Co-Chair
Education Committee
Room 3100, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

Regarding Raised Bill # 6666, Section 7

An act requiring School Districts to utilize Board Certified Behavior Analysts when and individual education plan includes applied behavior analytic services as part of a student's special education

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the parent of a child with autism, and am in support of Raised Bill # 6666, Section 7. I support this bill because it is necessary to ensure that children with autism receive a free and appropriate education implemented by qualified and appropriately trained individuals.

I know first hand the difference a true Certified Behavioral Analyst (CBA) can make. I had the good fortune to have started an in home ABA program when my son was 3½ years of age. He made great progress under ABA utilizing trained CBAs. When he was old enough for the school system to take over his education he was put into a program that did not have properly trained therapists and we saw much of what he had learned/gained quickly erode. We lost several months of good progress. He regressed until I went to battle with the school system and my son was transferred to the CT. Center for Child Development (CCCD) a school which only uses ABA teaching methods performed by CBAs. The improvement was incredible.

I strongly urge you to vote in favor of Bill #6666, Section 7.

Thank you,

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