

3/12/09

Education Committee,

I am writing in regards to the Raised Bill 6666. As a parent of a child with special needs, I believe it is extremely important to pass this bill.

I support the proposal and believe this will be very beneficial for our children to profit from the knowledge and understanding of a BCBA. Many times a child's IEP will indicate a behavior plan to be put into effect when a child displays problem behavior and often schools do not have staff that specialize in behavior modification. My son has had several behavior plans implemented in his school district, and it would have been beneficial for him to have had his plan developed by someone who specializes in behavior modification and could have implemented an appropriate program. When my son attended West Haven public School, he displayed problem behaviors and a plan was to be implemented, although the plan was never carried out appropriately. The plan was not effective due to the fact that the school didn't have staff specializing in this area, and the plan was carried out by the classroom teacher and reviewed by the school psychologist. My son is currently in the Shelton Public School system and although he currently does not need a behavior plan, he does still receive special services. As a parent, I feel my job is to do the best for my child that I possibly can, which includes providing him with the best education he can receive. Our children can not get up and speak for themselves in these types of matters, it is our duty to fight for their education and help them in any way we can. If this bill is passed, it will give our children an opportunity to benefit from the knowledge of a certified behavior analyst and help them to develop. When a child can focus and problem behaviors are decreased, this only makes them more acceptable in society. Essentially isn't that what we try to teach children in school, we are educating them to prepare for their future, which would include appropriate behavior and conduct in society. **I support Raised Bill # 6666, Section 7**



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