

Friis, John

From: njomahoney@collaborativeadvocacy.com
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2009 8:44 AM
To: Friis, John
Subject: Support for House Bill 6666

Dear Members of the Education Committee-

I am writing to request your support for the passing of Bill 6666 An Act Concerning Regarding Teacher Certification and the requirement for a BCBA/ABCBA to supervise the Individual Education Plan of children with Autism that require ABA services. It is critical to the effective implementation of these programs and the overall impact they will have on the education of some of our most vulnerable children with Autism.

I have been in the field of Special Education for over 30 years and I am currently the Director of Collaborative Advocacy Associates. We have supported the efforts of over 1000 Connecticut family in the past 6 years. I can tell you that on a daily basis I struggle along with many of the parents of these children to advocate for effective programs of ABA that require the supervision and input of a BCBA or an ABCBA. Without this critical input these programs have been seriously lacking at best and very poorly implemented and regressive at worst. LEAs must be required to research a BCBA's training and certification and ensure that our children receive the quality ABA programming they so desperately need and deserve. Thank you for your consideration.

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