Mr. Michael Cocchiola
98 Briarwood Road
Naugatuck, CT 06770-1610

March 5, 2010

Dear Representative Fleischmann:

I ask that you please support Section 2 of HB5425 An Act Concerning Special Education. Both federal and state legislation mandate that our public schools utilized evidence based practices for our students with special education needs. Hundreds of scientific studies have shown that applied behavior analysis improves outcomes for children and adults with autism.
But these services need to be provided by someone properly trained.

The legislation would require that anyone who was hired by our schools to provide applied behavior analysis services be a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), a Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst working under the supervision of a BCBA or a state licensed health care professional whose scope of practice includes behavior analysis.

Sincerely,

Michael Cocchiola