

1105

Dear Education Committee-

As the daughter of a teacher who has had many autistic children present in her classroom, I know the great need and benefit of autistic children receiving appropriate education. I have witnessed huge transformations in children who struggled in the classroom academically and relationally. With the appropriate resources and educators, these children transformed drastically for the better, being able to participate, perform, and interact in ways you would have never imagined. These are children we are dealing with, and they are part of the future generation. I am extremely distressed to hear the State Department of Education has proposed changes to legislation that would enable uncertified behavior analysts to care for Connecticut's autistic youth population. Not only is this a tremendous setback for the individual lives and futures of autistic children, but it is a huge disadvantage for our future as a state. These children have the potential to contribute to society in a significant way if given the opportunity to learn and enhance their individual gifts.

Sincerely,

Megan Reme

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