



CONNECTICUT  
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

February 28, 2014

**RE: Raised Bill No. 5285. AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE RENEWAL TIMES FOR OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES.**

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee:

My name is Traci Cipriano, and I am writing as Director of Professional Affairs for the Connecticut Psychological Association (CPA). CPA **supports R.B. No. 5285, AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF THE RENEWAL TIMES FOR OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES.**

In the majority of states, renewal times for occupational licenses are on a multiyear cycle, typically spanning 2 years, but in some cases 3 or 4 years.

An expansion of the active licensure period would reduce the administrative and financial burdens of renewal for both the State of Connecticut, as well as practitioners, and bring our licensing law more in line with other states.

Many mental health practitioners find the current licensure fee to be quite burdensome, considering the relative income of mental health professionals. In addition, as you are well aware, costs continue to increase (one such increase will be for CEU's, if this committee decides to move forward on that issue), while reimbursement rates continue to decrease. Expansion of the active licensure period, without a corresponding increase in licensure fee, will provide some relief to practitioners who are feeling financially burdened by the current fee.

In addition, expansion of the active licensure period also gives practitioners more flexibility in terms of meeting CEU requirements, which allows for a more thoughtful approach to CEU course selection.

We appreciate your support of this bill. Please contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Traci Cipriano, JD, PhD  
Director of Professional Affairs

Barbara S. Bunk, PhD  
President