

Dear Committee members,

I am writing to urge you to oppose HB 5537 section 6.

My name is Leslie Michniewicz-McCarthy M.S., BCBA, M.S., CCC-SLP BCBA #1-01-0521
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ABA is not currently within the scope of practice of Speech and Language Pathologists. As someone who is certified in both areas I can assure you that no formal training of ABA principles or experiential requirements related to providing ABA services was required in my Speech and Language education curriculum at Southern Connecticut State University. To merge the two crucial yet very distinct speciality areas would be detrimental to not only the consumers of these services, but those providing services with no formal training!

It is also my understanding that there has been no submission to change the scope of practice of the Speech and Language Pathologist to the Department of Public Health prior to this proposed change in Legislation as required by Public Act 11-209.

Please vote no on HB5537 section 6.

Thank you for your time,
Leslie Michniewicz-McCarthy , M.S., BCBA, M.S., CCC-SLP