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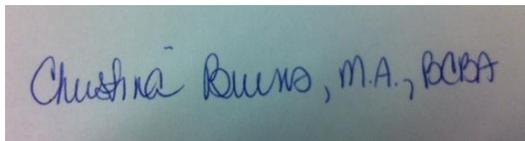
To Whom It May Concern:

As a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) practicing in the state of Connecticut, I want to voice my **opposition** to bill number HB 5537, specifically Section 42 (6).

I have been a practicing BCBA in the state of Connecticut for the last 5 years. It is alarming to me that a bill would pass that would allow Speech Language Pathologists (SLP) to practice Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), which I took specific coursework to learn. I currently work in a setting with SLP's as part of an interdisciplinary team. The SLP's often seek guidance from the behavior analysts and do not typically practice methodology based in ABA nor are SLP's required to take coursework related to ABA during their training.

Connecticut already has pre-existing legislation relating to Behavior Analysis and the scope of practice of Behavior Analysts. This expansion of the scope of practice for SLP's would cause confusion and negatively impact already practicing BCBA's in the state of Connecticut. Also expanding the scope of practice for SLP's would need to be reviewed in accordance with Public Act 11-209, An Act Concerning the Department of Health's Oversight Responsibilities Relating to Scope of Practice Determinations for Health Care Professionals.

Sincerely,

A photograph of a handwritten signature in blue ink on a light-colored surface. The signature reads "Christina Burns, M.A., BCBA".

Christina Burns
Board Certified Behavior Analyst