

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee,

Please oppose HB 5537, Section 6.

Applied Behavior Analysis is not currently within the scope of practice of Speech Language Pathologists. Speech Language Pathologists are not required to take any classes in behavior analysis, nor do they have any training or experience requirements related to the provision of behavior analytic services as part of their training to become SLP's. Consumers of ABA services would be negatively impacted by this modification to an SLP's scope of practice.

Behavior Analysis and the scope of practice of Behavior Analysts has been defined in existing CT legislation, and this expansion of an SLP's scope of practice would negatively impact other professionals including but not limited to Board Certified Behavior Analysts and School Psychologists.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Melissa Sutton, MS, BCBA