

Written Testimony Opposing HB 5537, Section 42 [6]

March 12, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Stephanie Reinoso, and I am a graduate student at the University of Saint Josephs. I will complete my degree this May, which is a Masters in Autism and Behavior Analysis. I have also completed all my 1500 hours of field work that is required by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB) in order to be eligible to sit for a certificate exam. This Certificate is required to become a BCBA, and to oversee the practice of Behavior Analysis.

I am writing to oppose HB 5537, Section 42 [6]. Speech and Language Pathologist have no formal training in behavior analysis, and they are not required to take any course work in behavior analysis. They are also not bound to the same ethical guidelines set forth by the BACB. However, they are bound by their guidelines to only provide services within their scope of practice. Unless they have taken approved BACB course work, and completed approved BACB field work, overseeing behavior analysis would not be in their scope of practice. Therefore, approving SLPs to included behavior analysis in their scope of practice without training and course work would negatively impact consumers, and currently practicing Board Certified Behavior Analysts.

I request that this bill not receive support.

Regards,

Stephanie A. Reinoso

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