PediCare
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RE: SB 1089 sections 23-29 includes licensure of BCBA's and BCaBA's

As a pediatrician and parent of a young woman with autism and ID, I am writing to support SB 1089 including the sections 23-29 which provide for the licensure of BCBAs and BCaBAs. ABA is one of the most useful interventions for individuals with autism but if performed incorrectly can lead to adverse and dangerous consequences for the individual served. As Medicaid consumers, school systems, private pay insurers, and families try to navigate the community of behaviorists it is crucial to have the type of oversight that licensure would ensure. All other individuals that work with children are required to have a license. Nurses, physicians, speech therapists, hairdressers, and occupational therapists to name a few are all required to fulfill specific qualifications to maintain their ability to practice in the state of CT. It is important that behavior analysts are required to do the same.

Thank you,
Michelle Rivelli
Michelle Rivelli, M.D., F.A.A.P.