



March 13, 2015

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee  
[PHCtestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:PHCtestimony@cga.ct.gov)

**Re: SB 1089 An Act Concerning Mental Health Services**

The Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis (CTABA) supports SB 1089 Sections 23-29. CTABA is a professional organization that seeks to assist in the development and advancement of the field of behavior analysis within the state of Connecticut through research, education, and dissemination of information. CTABA represents Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA) and Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts (BCaBA) in Connecticut, with a current membership of over 350 persons certified by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board® (BACB).

Licensure for behavior analyst will increase consumer protection, as behavior analysts often work with the most vulnerable of populations (e.g., those with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder, intellectual disability, other developmental disabilities, and behavior disorders). Licensure will provide consumers of behavior analysis (e.g., families, public school districts, DDS, private insurance providers, and Medicaid providers) a means of regulating the practice of applied behavior analysis (ABA).

Additionally, licensure of behavior analysts will not impact the scope of practice for other professionals (e.g., licensed psychologist), as SB 1089 includes specific language which protects the rights of professionals, other than behavior analyst, who have behavior analysis within their scope of practice.

Thank you for considering these comments,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Mark J. Palmieri".

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Mark J. Palmieri, PsyD, BCBA-D  
CTABA President

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