

1089

Raised Bill, SB 1089

Good morning.

I am in support of sections 23 – 29 of raised bill SB 1089 that establishes licensure for Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts.

As a parent of child with autism I have seen the positive impact made by the professionally applied science of behavior analysts on my own child, now an adult. On the long road to finding qualified people to provide that service we also encountered many who were not adequately trained or qualified. A licensing system that requires Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts to be licensed by meeting the standards of the International Behavior Analyst Certification Board assures that a person practicing in this state has met the most stringent testing and training available internationally.

Likewise, as an administrator in a school for children and adults with autism, I have seen the tremendous positive impact that the skillful practice of this profession can provide.

As in other professions, some practitioners are more skilled than others, and as in other professions a person needs the proper training and stringent licensing by a qualified professional board that can provide training and proper evaluation of practitioners in the field. In my view, this bill would accomplish that and assure that anyone practicing in the field of behavior analysis has received the most current and most stringent training and testing available. The BACB is the most professional organization in the field.

Licensure, as described in the bill, will also prevent those persons who hold themselves out as behavioral therapists, behavior coaches, or other such deceiving titles as representing themselves as people trained as true behavior analysts.

Thank you for supporting parents and individuals with autism by supporting this bill and strengthening our fight to get the best, most qualified people working for our children and loved ones.

Sincerely,

Roger Letso