

SOLANDY FORTE, LCSW, BCBA
54 WILSON STREET, MILFORD, CT
203-554-0763

March 16, 2015

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Public Health Committee

PHCTestimony@cga.ct.gov

Re: SB 1089 An Act Concerning Mental Health Services

Madam Chair and members of the committee,

My name is Solandy Forte and I am a resident of Milford, Connecticut. I am writing in SUPPORT OF SB 1089 (sections 23-29) for licensure of behavior analysts. I am a licensed clinical social worker and a board certified behavior analyst.

I am asking that the committee support licensure of behavior analysts as it will increase consumer protection for the individuals we serve who have some of the most challenging behavioral needs and complex learning profiles. They are also the most vulnerable population of individuals we serve who require intensive services such as Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). ABA has an extensive body of scientific research supporting its effectiveness in working with a diverse population of individuals with special needs. The principles of applied behavior analysis are utilized to teach children and adults the necessary skills to become independent members of our community.

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

Please consider my written testimony in support of SB 1089 (sections 23-29)

Solandy Forte, LCSW, BCBA
Behavior Analyst