

Letter in Support of SB 1089 (sections 23-29) – Suzanne Francois

Dear Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Suzanne Francois and I am a resident of Wallingford, CT. I am a Behavior Analyst for Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) in North Haven, CT. I am writing to wholeheartedly express my support for sections 23-29 of SB 1089 “An Act Concerning Mental Health Services.”

I have provided behavior analytic services to children and families since 2009. These services are evidence based and have been shown to teach new skills to individuals with autism and other disabilities. I feel privileged to have an opportunity to be a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and apply my skills to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Many families are concerned about behavior analyst not having licensure in Connecticut. Parents are concerned because other professionals present themselves as licensed individuals and there is a confusion as to why behavior analyst are certified a opposed to licensed. This confusion has led to misleading information, untrained individuals claiming to be behavior analysts and families receiving inappropriate services.

When Connecticut puts a licensure in place of Behavior Analysts, it will help families make better decisions about choosing Behavior Analysts, that will provide appropriate services due their training qualifications. Furthermore, Families will have opportunities to obtain the services of Behavior Analyst through their private insurance and medicaid.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I enthusiastically request that you vote to pass SB 1089 sections 23-29 as written.