

FTR

To: Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

From: Suzanne Letso, M.A., BCBA, NYS Licensed Behavior Analyst
Chief Executive Officer
Connecticut Center for Child Development
Milford, CT 06461

Date: March 2, 2015

RE: **Letter of support for Governor's bill 6847 with modification**
AN ACT ENHANCING ACCESS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AND
SERVICES FOR YOUTHS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

I support the Governor's bill 6847, but request one modification to this proposed legislation in section 5(c) to include treatment plans developed by Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA's). This bill currently states:

Such policy shall provide coverage for the following treatments, provided such treatments are (1) medically necessary, and (2) identified and ordered by a licensed physician, licensed psychologist or licensed clinical social worker for an insured who is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, in accordance with a treatment plan developed by a licensed physician, licensed psychologist or licensed clinical social worker pursuant to a comprehensive evaluation or reevaluation of the insured.

It is an essential component of behavioral intervention for a BCBA to develop a treatment plan for each client that they work with. Please consider modifying this section as follows:

Such policy shall provide coverage for the following treatments, provided such treatments are (1) medically necessary, and (2) identified and ordered by a licensed physician, licensed psychologist or licensed clinical social worker for an insured who is diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder, in accordance with a treatment plan developed by a licensed physician, licensed psychologist, licensed clinical social worker, or Board Certified Behavior Analysts pursuant to a comprehensive evaluation or reevaluation of the insured.

Thank you for considering this request.

Yours truly,

Suzanne Letso, M.A., BCBA, Resident of Newtown, CT