

Inge-Marie Eigsti, Ph.D.

Re: My testimony on Act HB 5521: AN ACT REQUIRING LICENSURE OF MASTER'S LEVEL PSYCHOLOGISTS

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

I am a Licensed Psychologist in Connecticut (with a dual Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and Cognitive Science).

I am in strong opposition to HB 5521, for three important reasons:

- 1) The term "psychologist" traditionally refers to providers with doctorate-level training, both in Connecticut and nationally. Licensing individuals with master-level training would further amplify the public's confusion about provider education and training.
- 2) Master's level clinicians are already eligible for able to become licensed in Connecticut as "Licensed Professional Counselors" (LPC's). Thus, this additional "permission" seems redundant.
- 3) School psychologists are master's level, but they only operate in the school systems and are under the authority of the Department of Education.

For each of these reasons, I am urging you to oppose HB 5521.

Thank you for your time and consideration.
Sincerely,

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Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology

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