

HB 5521

February 17, 2015

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

As a Licensed Psychologist in Connecticut, I am writing in strong opposition to HB 5521, for the following 3 reasons:

- 1) The term "psychologist" reflects doctoral level providers (both in Connecticut and on a national level);
- 2) Allowing licensure of master's level psychologists would create public confusion regarding provider education and training; and, 3) Master's level clinicians are currently able to become licensed in Connecticut as "Licensed Professional Counselors" (LPC's).
- 4) 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.

Kirk Johnson, Psy.D.

Clinical Psychologist