

To Whom This May Concern:

My name is Alison Everett; I am a special education teacher in the town of Cheshire. I am currently in a graduate program in Applied Behavior Analysis at Southern Connecticut State University and I will soon be able to take the exam to become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

I have spent over a year now taking courses to prepare me to be an effective behavior analyst. I now know how to assess a wide variety of behavior and the research based interventions to help change behavior. I have worked directly with a BCBA who has supervised me and given me the tools I need to make my students more successful. I have firsthand been able to see the positive effects, both behaviorally and academically, that ABA has had on my first, second, and third graders.

I am writing to encourage legislators to support SB 292. Our field is a unique one, which needs your protection. We are not a subset of psychology and should not have to be supervised by a psychologist. While there are some similarities between the two fields, there is a vast amount of differences. Our formal training is extremely different and the way we practice our skillsets differ as well.

I also support the addition to this bill that would allow a BCBA to have staff working under him/her. This is critical because a BCBA should be the person supervising staff implementing a procedure that he/she wrote. The BCBA is the expert in regards to behavior analytic services; therefore, should be the one directly supervising staff that are using ABA.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alison Everett