February 22, 2021
To the distinguished Chairs and Members of the Human Services Committee,

I am the Chair of Connecticut Psychological Association’s Legislative Committee and a licensed Psychologist in the State of Connecticut for the past 21 years.

I am writing in support of Raised Bill No. 6470, which has been referred to the Committee on Human Services. If passed, HB 6470, would allow for both audio and video telehealth services consistent with federal law and thus continue the critically important expanded coverage for telehealth services previously implemented via Executive Order.

While Telehealth is not a substitute for in-person sessions when these are accessible for clients and can be safely conducted, there is growing evidence demonstrating the efficacy of telehealth and how Telehealth services increase access to care and contain costs for healthcare systems. The value of such services have been demonstrated during the COVID pandemic, allowing for needed and valued treatment delivered to thousands of citizens of Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marcy Russo, Ph.D.
Legislative Committee Chair, Connecticut Psychological Association.