



North Dakota Association for Behavior Analysis

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Chairperson Lee, and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee.

The North Dakota Association for Behavior Analysis is in favor of SB 2190 as applied behavior analysis has been demonstrated as being an effective approach to addressing challenging behaviors that interfere with quality of life across diagnoses and across the lifespan. Applied behavior analytic interventions have demonstrated efficacy including addiction (Dallery, 2023a; 2023b), adherence to medical and dental routines (Allen & Kupzyk, 2016; Barboza et al., 2023; Kupzyk & Allen, 2019; Kupzyk et al., 2021), attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (Orantes et al., 2023), gerontology (LeBlanc et al., 2011), prevention of various medical problems (Allen & Hine, 2015), among many other common problems that North Dakotans may be confronted with. The expanded access to additional service providers who apply an evidence- and research-based ethical practice with the support of several medical and education associations would only benefit the citizens of North Dakota.

As a treatment applied behavior analysis has been supported by a multitude of medical and educational professional organizations including *American Academy of Pediatrics*, *Center for Disease Control*, *American Psychology Association*, *National Association of School Psychologist*, and *National Education Association*. Applied behavior analysis is practiced by 99 Board Certified Behavior Analysts, 3 Board Certified Behavior Analysts-Doctoral, and a total of 149 licensed behavior analysts across the State. Expanding ABA across the lifespan would not strain a system, but would have the potential to grow a much needed system of care. Expansion would lead to variety and parity of services that may prevent migration of talented providers, and increase the interest, training opportunities, and job opportunities that are needed in State.

Please consider our comments as the Committee makes recommendations.

Respectfully,

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