



The Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis
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February 26, 2024

Senator Ron Latz
Chair, Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2107
St. Paul, MN 55155

Letter of support for SF 3523/HF 3741

Dear Senator Latz,

I am the President of the Minnesota Northland Association for Behavior Analysis (MNABA), which is a professional organization of over 300 members who are psychologists, teachers, professors, and other human service professionals across Minnesota. Our members provide behavior analysis services to children and adults with behavioral health disorders in their homes, schools, and communities.

I am writing to introduce myself and MNABA, as well as to share some important information about the urgent need to license behavior analysts in Minnesota. Behavior Analysis should have the same level of support and regulation as to the other helping professions in Minnesota.

As you may be aware, applied behavior analysis (ABA) services are a vital resource for individuals with behavioral health disorders and special needs, providing them with the direct support they need to reach their full potential. Thank you for your long-term support of autism services and the several laws that were passed last year that were aimed at helping families access critical MA EIDBI (early intensive developmental behavior intervention) and other services that enable children and adults to live, work and thrive in their communities.

MNABA seeks your support for licensing behavior analysts in this legislative session to ensure that the State can protect and deliver the best possible services to vulnerable children and adults who have behavioral disorders. Right now, there is no local process for Minnesota consumers of behavior analysis to report complaints of potential unethical or incompetent treatment practices. SF 3523/HF 3741 creates that local process by authorizing the Minnesota Board of Psychology to license behavior analysts, including the power to investigate and resolve consumer complaints to protect the public from harmful effects of incompetent or unethical providers.

37 other States already license behavior analysts, including all surrounding States. A Minnesota license precludes persons sanctioned in other States from working in Minnesota. It also builds a career path so as not to lose current qualified behavior analysts to an already licensed State.

Our membership would be very grateful if you can pass SF 3223 out of committee and further its path into law.

Thank you in advance for considering my request.

Sincerely,

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MNABA is an affiliated chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International
And of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts