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March 26, 2017

Via Email

To The Honorable Representative Mitch Greenlick,
Chair & Members of the House Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Legislature

Re: House Bill 2931 – **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Greenlick & Members of the House Committee on Health Care:

Footprints Behavioral Interventions, a non-public agency providing Applied Behavior Analysis services to families throughout the state of Oregon, respectfully submits this letter in support of House Bill 2931 which amends ORS 676.815 to clarify the educational requirements for registration of behavior analysis interventionists.

As ORS 676.815 is currently written, in September of 2016, one of our employees was denied registration despite the fact that she was a nationally-accredited Registered Behavior Technician. She earned her BA in Psychology and has been enrolled since early spring of 2015 enrolled at a nationally-accredited Masters Level Program with an emphasis in Applied Behavior Analysis.

Upon receiving notification that she was denied registration, we endured a series of hardships. Since our agency acknowledges that a post-secondary education degree is evidence of an individuals' capacity to learn and implement effective intervention. We hired this interventionist after she successfully completed our rigorous 40 hours of training in ABA. In accepting our job offer, she was relying upon her salary/wages to provide for her and her family. Since she was unable to earn her BAI registration, thus preventing her from being assigned clients, she suffered from significant financial hardship. In addition, several families, which were enrolled in our Applied Behavior Analysis



program, were denied services for a period of time as we were unable to fulfill their contract hours. Fortunately, after approximately two months, our employee was able to earn her GED certificate and subsequently, is now a registered behavior analysis interventionist.

After experiencing such an ordeal, we feel that much of the hardships that she and our families' experienced for future candidates facing similar situation with the amending of ORS 626.815. Thus, we humbly request for our request to recognize that a degree from a post-secondary institution can also serve as sufficient educational requirement for becoming a behavior analysis interventionist.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia", written in a cursive style.

Julia Nguyen-Kim, MA
Clinical Coordinator & Director of Outreach Programs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corey Stump", written in a cursive style.

Corey Stump, MA, BCBA
Clinical Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Quynh", written in a cursive style.

Quynh Nguyen, PhD, BCBA-D
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris", written in a cursive style.

Christopher Kim, MA
Director of Business Development & Provider Relations

