



February 14, 2023

Chairman Rob Nosse  
Vice Chair Christine Goodwin  
Vice Chair Travis Nelson  
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care

RE: House Bill 2048  
Relating to behavior analysis interventionists; prescribing an effective date.

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chair Goodwin, Vice Chair Nelson, and Members of the Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare,

I am writing to you today as the Executive Director and Owner of Westside Behavior Therapy, a locally-owned ABA organization serving the Portland Metro area for the last eight years.

In years past, delays in BAI registration prevented the timely onset of ABA services for community members. In the State of Oregon, where there are still many barriers to access services, HB 2048 may assist in ensuring the providers we have available are able to obtain timely registration and begin delivery of service to those who seek it.

Therefore, I would like to express my general support for House Bill 2048, and any future amendments that will promote timely access to medically necessary ABA services for members of our local community. I believe this bill will positively impact the ability of practitioners in our field to support and meet the needs of the families we serve. By increasing efficiencies in the registration process for qualified individuals to become behavior analysis interventionists, this bill would help expand access to critical services for individuals with developmental and behavioral challenges. Furthermore, ongoing challenges in maintaining the necessary workforce to provide these services would be reduced.

Surely, in the current challenging staffing environment, any provision that imposes a timely "provisional" registration within five (5) business days would be a welcome change.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelsey Townsend".

Kelsey Townsend, M.Ed., BCBA, LBA  
*Executive Director*  
Westside Behavior Therapy