

Re: House Bill 2421
Relating to applied behavior analysis; prescribing an effective date.

I write to you today on behalf of The Council of Autism Service Providers (CASP) regarding House Bill 2421. We strongly support this legislation and respectfully request a hearing on it as soon as possible.

CASP is a non-profit association of organizations committed to providing evidence-based care to individuals with autism. CASP represents the autism provider community to the nation at large, including government, payers, and the general public. We provide information and education and promote standards that enhance quality of care. We are also home to the clinical practice guidelines for applied behavior analysis, "[Applied Behavior Analysis Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Practice Guidelines for Healthcare Funders and Managers \(2nd ed.\)](https://casproviders.org/asd-guidelines/)"¹(Practice Guidelines).

We appreciate the efforts of the Oregon legislature to ensure ongoing access to medically necessary care for people with autism through the provision of applied behavior analysis as described in the previously mentioned Practice Guidelines.

We support the important technical fixes included in HB 2421, which include:

- Reporting of child abuse;
- Prohibition on the practice of conversion therapy;
- Duty to report unprofessional conduct, arrests, and convictions;
- Alignment of minor's treatment by a Behavior Analyst with other behavioral health providers;
- Strengthening the enforcement abilities of the Health Licensing Office and its coordination with the Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board.

Adopting these corrections will bring behavior analyst requirements in line with those of other behavioral health providers in Oregon. Adoption will also align with the

¹ Council of Autism Service Providers. 2020. *Applied Behavior Analysis Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders: Practice Guidelines for Healthcare Funders and managers (2nd ed.)* <https://casproviders.org/asd-guidelines/>.

previously mentioned Practice Guidelines, which are generally accepted standards of care.

Should you need additional information or have questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me at jursitti@casproviders.org.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judith Ursitti". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Judith Ursitti
Vice President of Government Affairs