



February 13, 2025

Honorable Representative Rob Nosse
Chair, House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care
900 Court Street NE, Room 453
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Representative Nosse,

On behalf of Positive Behavior Supports, Corp., I am writing to express our strong support for HB 2023, which proposes to establish health insurance coverage for applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy for individuals with intellectual and developmental disability diagnoses, ensuring parity with coverage for autism spectrum disorder diagnoses. This legislation is crucial for expanding access to essential ABA services for a broader population in need.

Positive Behavior Supports, Corp. currently provides services to approximately 300 children and adults, ranging in age from 1 to over 50 years old, across the state of Oregon. Our operations span 21 counties statewide, with a dedicated team of nearly 150 professionals, including Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs), Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts (BCaBAs), Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs), and Behavior Assistants (BAs).

The proposed expansion of health insurance coverage for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy, as outlined in Oregon's House Bill 2023, seeks to improve access to care for individuals with a broader range of intellectual and developmental disabilities. By aligning coverage requirements for these conditions with those for autism spectrum disorder (ASD), this initiative would enable more individuals to access the critical therapeutic interventions necessary to enhance their quality of life.

In addition to its well-established effectiveness for individuals diagnosed with autism, ABA therapy has proven to be beneficial for those with other developmental disabilities. ABA therapy addresses many core deficits associated with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including impairments in adaptive functioning across conceptual, social, and practical domains. These deficits may impact areas such as language, knowledge, interpersonal communication, social relationships, self-management, daily living skills, and vocational skills—all of which can be targeted and improved using evidence-based ABA practices.

Positive Behavior Supports, Corp. extends its services across the United States and Canada, where ABA therapy coverage is available for individuals without an ASD diagnosis. In these regions, we have observed significant improvements in the quality of life for clients who do not have an ASD diagnosis, further demonstrating the broad applicability and effectiveness of ABA therapy for individuals with a variety of developmental disabilities.

HB 2023 is a necessary step toward equitable access to evidence-based therapies for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We respectfully urge the committee to vote in favor of HB 2023.

Thank you for your time and service to the state of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Taylor Menendez, M.S., BCBA, LBA
Positive Behavior Supports, Corp.
tmenendez@teampbs.com
503-850-8703