

HB 2048 A -A5 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

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Meeting Dates: 6/1

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Health Licensing Office (HLO) to establish process to issue provisional registration to applicant for behavior analysis interventionist registration. Requires provisional registration to be issued within five days of receipt of application. Becomes operative October 1, 2023. Requires HLO to contract with third party to conduct study on access to behavior analysis interventionists and report back to Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-A5 The -A5 amendment removes section 4 of the engrossed bill, eliminating the requirement to contract with a third party to study access to behavior analysis interventionists in the state and report back to the Legislative Assembly.

BACKGROUND:

Applied behavior analysis (ABA) is a type of interpersonal therapy often used in the treatment of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). ABA focuses on changing behaviors by understanding what happens before and after the behavior.

In 2013, the Legislative Assembly passed Senate Bill 365, creating the Behavioral Analysis Regulatory Board (BARB) within the Health Licensing Office (HLO). The measure also required the BARB to establish criteria for the licensing of behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts and registration of behavior analysis interventionists.

House Bill 2048 directs the Health Licensing Office to issue a provisional registration to behavior analysis interventionist registration applicants when approval of registration does not occur within five days and requires the Health Licensing Office to contract with a third party to conduct a study on access to behavior analysis interventionists.