

Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis

ORABA

4724 S Macadam Ave Portland, OR 97239

House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare

900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

February 14th, 2023

RE: HB 2048

Dear Representative Rob Nosse and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Healthcare:

The Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis (ORABA), has reviewed HB 2048 and supports the bill's efforts to address potential delays in issuing registration to applicants of the Registered Behavior Analyst credential. Specifically, HB 2048 seeks to:

- Provides a rule to direct the Health Licensing Office to issue provisional registration to applicants for behavior analysis interventionist registration within 5 days of receipt of application.
- Require applicants to have a high school diploma or equivalent, be at least 18 years old, pass a criminal records check, complete at least 40 hours of professional training, and receive ongoing training and supervision by a licensed behavior analyst as consistent with current requirements.

The Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis believes that this bill will positively impact the ability of practitioners in our field to support and meet the needs of the families they 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.

While HB 2048 seeks to bridge that gap in efficiency in the current process of registering behavior interventionists, it should be noted that the standard of practice in the vast majority of other states is for direct practitioners (i.e. "interventionists") to be under the supervision and responsibility of the Licensed Behavior Analysts overseeing their practice. In the future, ORABA would support revisiting the current practice of registering individual interventionists in order to make changes that align more closely with standards of practice nationally.

We thank the authors and sponsors for their efforts to ensure the continued care of thousands of Oregonians and we look forward to continuing to work in support of these efforts.

Respectfully,

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