



# University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

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## Testimony on HB 1269: Relating to Autism Spectrum Disorders

Thank you for allowing us to testify. I am Mary Jo Noonan, PhD, BCBA, LBA, and Chair of the Department of Special Education, University of Hawaii at Manoa. HB 1269 rightfully notes that “multiple professionals are qualified to treat autism,” and “that the need for evidence-based treatments for autism spectrum disorders cannot be filled by licensed behavior analysts alone.” We ask that the wording in this bill be changed to recognize that licensed special education teachers are professionals who are qualified to treat autism and are well-trained in behavior analysis.

We are concerned with the current wording of this legislation and statute because it restricts the practice of licensed special education teachers—licensed professionals who have behavior analysis clearly within their scope of training and practice. In turn, this legislation prevents the College and other University of Hawaii System (UH) Special Education Teacher Education programs from delivering our accredited and state approved teacher education programs. Specifically, the current legislation does not allow UH Special Education programs to prepare special education teachers to conduct behavioral assessment or to design and implement interventions based in applied behavior analysis. Without applied behavior analysis in their training, special education teacher candidates who graduate from UHM and other state approved programs will not meet state licensing requirements (they will not be completing an accredited program) and will not be prepared to pass the Praxis state licensing exam which includes questions on applied behavior analysis. Given the extreme and chronic shortage of licensed special education teachers in our state and the need for autism services, it is in the interest of the state of Hawai‘i to allow the University of Hawaii and other state approved programs to fully implement its accredited and state-approved special education teacher preparation programs.

The license and recognized scope and practice of special education teachers in the state of Hawaii must be respected and supported. The current bill, HB 1269, and the law it is amending, Act 235, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, do not do that. The specific changes in wording in HB 1269 that we are requesting are as follows:

P. 4, line 20: “Autism service provider” may include licensed special education teachers, licensed behavior analysts, licensed psychologists,.....

P. 8, lines 13-14: (1) Is licensed by a state licensure board in a profession that practices in behavioral health or education; and...

P. 8, line 18: “Autism service provider” may include licensed special education teachers, licensed behavior analysts, licensed psychologists, ....

Thank you for considering our testimony on the qualifications of special education teachers to provide autism services, and the impact of this legislation on special education teacher training in Hawaii.

HB 1269 FOR HEARING 2/14/19, 9:31 AM

Dear Representatives, Mizuno, Cachola, Creagan, Decoite, C. Lee, Ohno, Say, Wildberger, Hashimoto, D. Kobayashi, and Matayoshi

I am writing in support of HB 1269 that seeks to expand the availability of treatment for individuals with ASD in Hawai'i by clarifying that licensed mental health professionals from a variety of backgrounds can provide these services with amendments to include FASD.

FASD is associated with secrecy and shame, quite possibly due to its preventable nature and the stigma attached to it. Alcohol is legal accessible therefore it is not surprising that the research stated that 1 in 20 first graders do have FASD. According to a study questions, if this shame is the reason for its marginalization of the children and families with FASD in general? While Autism Spectrum Disorders has increased public awareness, availability of therapeutic services and much recognized. (Barker, Kulyk, Knorr, & Brenna, 2011).

Language and communication disorder are common neurodevelopmental symptoms associated with FASD as are the intellectual disability, memory impairment, motor impairment, and sensory which is side by side similar to Autism. The range and severity of impairments exhibited by individuals with ASD and FASD are both physical and neurodevelopmental each with a specific diagnosis. FASD has its cause specified, and Autism does not- both are Developmental Disabilities that equally need support and services.

FASD diagnosis is processing disorder, learning disability, and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder almost the same with Autism Spectrum Disorders (Astley, 2010; Kodituwakku & Kodituwakku, 2014). Somewhere between 1% and 4% of all children worldwide are reported to have an FASD. The neurodevelopmental impairments associated with FASD came with significant social costs across the lifespan in the form of increased medical, educational, and vocational support and lost productivity (Lupton, Burd, & Harwood, 2004; Popova, Lange, Burd, & Rehm, 2015). I have worked with Children with Autism as a Registered Behavioral Therapist under ABA Guidelines, and in my observations, FASD is a Developmental Disability equally as severe as Autism which needs to be included and treated the same as Autism.

Mahalo Nui Loa,  
Darlyn Chen Scovell RBT, MA

#### Reference

Astley, S. J. (2010). Profile of the first 1,400 patients receiving diagnostic evaluations for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder at the Washington State Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Diagnostic & Prevention Network. *Canadian Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, 17(1), e132–e164.

Barker, C., Kulyk, J., Knorr, L., & Brenna, B. (2011). Open Inclusion or Shameful Secret: A Comparison of Characters with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and Characters with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) in a North American Sample of Books for Children and Young Adults. *International Journal of Special Education*, 26(3), 171–180. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com.libproxy.edmc.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&db=eric&AN=EJ959010&site=eds-live>

Kodituwaku, P., & Kodituwaku, E. (2014). Cognitive and behavioral profiles of children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. *Current Developmental Disorders Reports*, 1(3), 149–160. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40474-014-0022-6>

Thorne, J. C. 1. jct6@uw. ed. (2017). Accentuate the Negative: Grammatical Errors During Narrative Production as a Clinical Marker of Central Nervous System Abnormality in School-Aged Children With Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. *Journal of Speech, Language & Hearing Research*, 60(12), 3523–3537. [https://doi-org.libproxy.edmc.edu/10.1044/2017pass:\[\\_JSLHR-L-17-0128](https://doi-org.libproxy.edmc.edu/10.1044/2017pass:[_JSLHR-L-17-0128)



COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Representative John Mizuno, Chair

Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

Conference Room 329, Hawai'i State Capitol

Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 am

**HB1269: OPPOSE**

Honorable Chair Mizuno and Vice Chair Kobayashi,

We appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony on this measure. Together For Our Keiki (T.F.O.K.) is a non-profit advocacy group whose mission is to advocate and create an inclusive community for our keiki by empowering parents and educating local stakeholders.

In regards to HB1269, we stand in **opposition** to this measure. The bill attempts to expand the medical ABA provider network to decrease wait lists. While we agree that we need to remove barriers to services, extending the provider network to professionals who do not have ABA in their education, training, and competence would create new concerns for consumers. These changes would place a vulnerable population at greater risk of harm, which we do not believe is the intention of the Committee Chair.

Many students are unable to access their medically and educationally necessary ABA services during their school day. There does not appear to be a lack of providers, but rather a lack of providers working for or contracting with the Department of Education (DOE). Because providers are unable to provide services for students during the school day, there is a backlog of clients in the afternoons and evenings. This barrier would be better addressed by continuing to work with the DOE to hire adequate licensed behavior analysts (LBAs) and registered behavior technicians to meet the needs of their students.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **opposition** to this measure.

Mahalo nui loa,

*Lara Bollinger*

Lara Bollinger, M.S.Ed, BCBA, LBA

Behavior Analyst and Law Student

President and Founding Member

Together For Our Keiki

[fourkeiki@gmail.com](mailto:fourkeiki@gmail.com)



# Hawai'i Psychological Association

*For a Healthy Hawai'i*

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Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 14, 2019  
TIME: 9:31 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329, State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

The Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) strongly supports HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" – now HSR Section 431:10A-133 - the statute requiring health insurers to provide treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The purpose of this bill is to help ensure access to necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with ASD by licensed professionals with adequate training and competence. It seeks to expand the availability of treatment for individuals with ASD in Hawai'i by clarifying that licensed mental health professionals from a variety of backgrounds can provide these services. The original Luke's law legislation anticipated the passage of a licensure bill for Applied Behavior Analysts which was passed soon after, and it essentially defined Autism Service providers as individuals certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. This severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families.

HPA agrees that ABA interventions are an important component of treatment for individuals with ASD. It is a technology that was developed and pioneered by psychologists, and it explicitly falls within the scope of practice of licensed psychologists as detailed in our licensing law (Section 465 of Hawai'i Revised Statutes). Legislation passed in the last session recognized the competency of many licensed psychologists to provide, design and supervise ABA services by exempting psychologist from the licensure requirements for LBAs (HRS Section ???). Nonetheless, funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify the legislature's expectation that health plans will cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Comprehensive services for individuals with autism should also include a number of other types of interventions routinely provided by Clinicians representing a number of disciplines including: social work, psychiatry, psychiatric nursing, special education, marriage and family therapy, and mental health counselling. Individuals with autism often will need family therapy, parent training,

social skills training, psychotropic medication, and case management, along with treatment of co-occurring mental disorders such as anxiety and depression which are common among individuals with ASD. These services should be included in the mandate for treatment of autism, and they generally are not provided by LBAs.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Julie Takashima-Lacasse  
Chair, HPA Legislative Action Committee



**LATE**

**Hawai'i Psychological Association**  
*For a Healthy Hawai'i*

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Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

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Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Julie Takashima-Lacasse  
Chair, HPA Legislative Action Committee



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Tel: (808) 833-2711 ♦ Fax: (808) 839-7106 ♦ Web: www.hsta.org

Corey Rosenlee  
President  
Osa Tui, Jr.  
Vice President  
Logan Okita  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Wilbert Holck  
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
HEALTH

RE: HB 1269 - RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

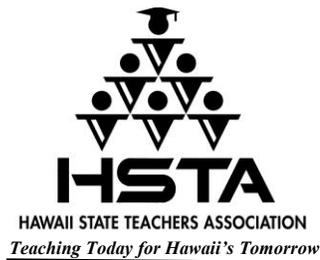
Chair Mizuno, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **opposes HB 1269**, relating to the practice of behavior analysis.

Act 199, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, otherwise known as Luke's Law, established the behavior analyst program within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and created licensing requirements for behavior analysts. Licensing of behavior analysis services was made concurrent with mandated insurance coverage for diagnosis and treatment related to autism disorders, with which nearly 1,500 public school students are currently diagnosed. **Currently in the Senate SB 341, is language we agree with along with the HODOE and HABA. It makes minor changes in the dates to clarify that teachers are able to implement ABA plans. That is the bill we prefer and hope you will consider passing it instead.**

Behavior analysis means the design, implementation, and evaluation of instructional and environmental modifications to produce socially significant improvements in human behavior. The practice of behavior analysis includes the empirical identification of functional relations between behavior and environmental factors, known as functional assessment and analysis, as well as the use of contextual factors, motivating operations, antecedent stimuli, positive reinforcement, and other consequences to help people develop positive behaviors.

Act 107 of 2016 allowed the DOE until 2019 to ensure that registered behavior technicians are licensed and employed throughout the department, but this act, which amended Luke's Law, was never intended to permit teachers to design or



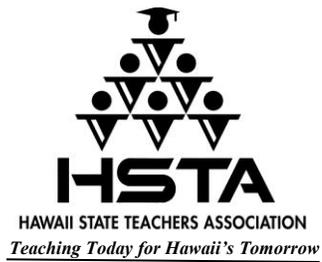
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Corey Rosenlee  
President  
Osa Tui, Jr.  
Vice President  
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Secretary-Treasurer  
Wilbert Holck  
Executive Director

monitor applied behavior analysis plans. **Teachers may only implement such plans under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst** and according to a student's individualized education program, since designing and monitoring behavior analysis plans are not a practice included within the scope of a teaching license. Teachers rely on board certified behavior analysts and psychologists who have behavior analysis as part of their training and licensure to perform behavioral diagnoses and develop related plans for students having difficulty making sufficient academic progress. **During an IEP meetings, for instance, we often must seek the counsel of medical professionals with behavioral analysis training. That said, a teaching license is not a medical license and should not be misconstrued as qualifying educators to conduct medical assessments.**

This measure does not rectify problems facing the behavior analyst community, the children who depend on their services, or their families. To begin, it does not eliminate the staffing shortage that has led to teachers performing behavior analysis, which can only be closed by providing the HIDOE with funding to hire licensed behavior analysts, either as employees of the department or by contracting with the many private providers who in some schools are still being denied access to the children they're qualified to serve. **We have come a long way in working to get the right legislation passed to support our most vulnerable students, and now that the HIDOE, HABA, and HSTA agree on the language in SB 341, that is the language we should stick with for the good of our students.**

If this bill, HB 1269 passes into state law, it will not only be problematic but allow unethical practice of allowing behavior analysis to be conducted by unqualified individuals, whose time is better spent on the professions for which they've been rigorously trained and certified. According to the DOE's own report to the legislature in *Report on Behavior Analyst and Certification Requirements Implementation*, dated January 5th, 2018, the department is supporting efforts for 39 DOE personnel to become BCBAs in an approved program, and assisting another 145 departmental personnel in becoming Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) by 2019. We need to continue in this direction, rather than further weakening Luke's Law. They are making great progress, and that is the direction we should continue. Let's not go backwards.



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**Corey Rosenlee**  
President

**Osa Tui, Jr.**  
Vice President

**Logan Okita**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Wilbert Holck**  
Executive Director

That said, we urge you to protect teachers from being told to perform behavior analysis services, such as conducting Functional Behavior Assessments (FBA), designing/creating Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Plans and monitoring such plans, for which they are not qualified, nor certified to do.

To ensure our most vulnerable keiki are given the care they deserve, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **oppose** this bill.

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 5:15:14 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Louis Erteschik	Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

While we understand the importance of increasing the capacity of service providers we believe that this bill goes too far in eliminating current protections that are in place to ensure that individuals with autism spectrum disorder receive appropriate treatment.

This bill would expand the insurance law to add several other categories of providers who would be able to provide applied behavior analysis services under the existing insurance mandate to cover services for individuals with autism. When the legislature passed the insurance mandate, a behavior analyst licensure law was also passed in order to ensure that a high standard of services would be available. The inclusion of all of the other professionals proposed in this bill would erode the standard that was set at that time and then refined during subsequent legislative sessions to include psychologists who have the appropriate training. For example, this bill would include marriage counselors as being able to provide services to children with autism spectrum disorder. Is that really how far we want to go to erode the quality of the services we provide? While that may be the most extreme example, it is really questionable whether many of the other proposed professionals in HB 1269 are qualified in any way to provide these services. We are not aware of any other state that has such a law and allows those not licensed to practice and be reimbursed for providing applied behavior analysis services.

We already have many behavior analysts and registered behavior technician paraprofessionals working in the state, and we believe our focus should be on increasing the capacity of qualified providers- not enlisting other professionals to provide services they do not appear qualified to offer.



COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi,, Vice Chair  
Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 am  
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol  
**HB1269: OPPOSITION**

Honorable Chairs Mizuno, Kobayashi, and members of the committee,

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure. HABA stands in **OPPOSITION** of HB1269 as this measure would dilute the quality of services for our keiki with autism. HABA stands by the work of our legislators in previous years to ensure the protection of our consumers through the passing of Luke's Law and the passing of licensure for behavior analysts. Since licensure began, we now have 272 Licensed Behavior Analysts and 745 active Registered Behavior Technicians in the state of Hawaii.

Opening up "Autism service provider" to professionals such as "licensed psychiatrists, licensed advanced practice registered nurses with a specialization in psychiatry, licensed clinical social workers, licensed marriage and family therapists, and licensed mental health counselors" will threaten the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable consumers.

The proposed language in HB1269 conflicts with Medicaid and prohibits reimbursement for school-based Medicaid claiming (an estimated \$50 million annually for our state). It is noteworthy that other states do not allow professionals who do not have Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) in their state licensure laws to practice ABA, as it is not reimbursable by health insurances. Only Licensed Behavior Analysts and Licensed Psychologists have ABA listed in their scopes of practice.

To clarify, the University of Hawaii does have a program in behavior analysis that is available online, to residents of all islands. There are also several other online programs in behavior analysis through mainland universities that our residents here in Hawaii can and do access to further their education. To our knowledge, there are no physician or psychiatry programs in the nation that confer degrees in behavior analysis.

This bill attempts to expand the provider network to decrease waitlists. We do need to remove barriers. Extending the provider network to professionals who do not have ABA in their scope, however would create new concerns for consumers and place this vulnerable population at greater risk of harm, which we do not believe is the intention of the Committee Chair.

We are available to answer any questions.

Mahalo,

*Kathleen Penland, M. Ed., BCBA, LBA-25*

Kathleen Penland, M.Ed, BCBA, LBA  
HABA Past President

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Representative John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Representative Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 am  
Conference Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol  
**HB1269: OPPOSITION**

Honorable Chairs Mizuno, Kobayashi, and members of the committee,

This testimony is in **OPPOSITION** of the proposed amendments to the autism insurance mandate in HB1269, as the amendments would significantly weaken the consumer protections for quality service currently in place. Expansion of “autism service provider” to include other professionals without specific expertise and training in the provision of evidence-based intervention, specifically applied behavior analysis (ABA), for the treatment of autism is a disservice to Hawai‘i families and the original intent of the law. I respectfully ask this committee to ensure children with autism continue to receive care from professionals specifically trained for the delivery of this treatment by not moving this bill forward.

Mahalo,

Kristen Koba-Burdet, BCBA, LBA  
Director  
Aloha Behavioral Associates LLC

**From:** [amithealove@gmail.com](mailto:amithealove@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:50:07 AM

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Amithea Love  
2037 Puu Kaa St.  
Kapaa, HI 96746-2339

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Amithea M. Love, Psy.D.  
8086406241



**From:** [kobleada@hawaii.edu](mailto:kobleada@hawaii.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:30:01 PM

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Katrina Obleada  
1504 Magazine St.  
HONOLULU, HI 96822-3733

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

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Sincerely,

Katrina Obleada  
4076178089



**From:** [mchristopher@ponopraxis.com](mailto:mchristopher@ponopraxis.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:15:08 AM

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Michael Christopher  
3734 Harding Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816-3729

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

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It makes no sense to exclude equally or more qualified mental health providers, and require that people use only LBAs. This exclusion seems to be little more than an attempt to create a economic "guild" for a group who may have training in only one kind of treatment.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Michael Christopher Psy.D., Ph.D.  
8082856721

**From:** [kkuikahi-duncan@paloaltou.edu](mailto:kkuikahi-duncan@paloaltou.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:35:10 AM

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Kahanaaloha Kuikahi-Duncan  
3144 Elua St. #2  
Lihue, HI 96766-1211

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

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Sincerely,

Kahanaaloha Kuikahi-Duncan

**From:** [sean.sullivan@prideindustries.com](mailto:sean.sullivan@prideindustries.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:45:10 AM

---

Sean Sullivan  
1003 Bishop Street, Suite 2700  
Honolulu, HI 96813-6475

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

As both an employer and service provider for people with disabilities in Hawaii, I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Because the current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state, this severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs).

This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Sean Sullivan  
Manager, Employment Services  
PRIDE Industries 1003 Bishop Street  
Pauahi Tower, Floor 27, Suite 2700  
Honolulu, Hawaii 97813-6475

P: (808) 518-9304  
F: (866) 324-4042  
sean.sullivan@prideindustries.com  
prideindustries.com

Creating Jobs for People with Disabilities

Sincerely,

Sean Sullivan  
8085189304

**From:** [annienguyenpsyd@gmail.com](mailto:annienguyenpsyd@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:05:14 AM

---

Annie Nguyen  
PO BOX 640  
Kailua, HI 96734-0640

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

This bill is critical in helping families get access to care and to have it paid for by insurance. I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Annie H. Nguyen, PsyD  
8083811838



**From:** [drhamada810@gmail.com](mailto:drhamada810@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:15:09 PM

---

Roger Hamada  
98-211 Pali Momi St., Suite 810  
Aiea, HI 96701-4377

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Roger Hamada, Ph.D.  
8084887001



**From:** [drjeffstern@gmail.com](mailto:drjeffstern@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:25:05 PM

---

Jeffrey Stern  
1833 Kalakaua Ave. Suite 908  
Honolulu, HI 96815-1528

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

Honorable representatives, I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The issue, in my opinion, is access to competent mental health care. The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

As one of the original task force members who contributed to the development and passage of "Lukes Law," I posit that HB 1269 furthers the intent of this landmark legislation; To expand coverage of autism spectrum disorders without limiting access to service provision by qualified health professionals.

Please vote YES on HB1269.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey D. Stern  
8083873703

**From:** [janetthomas@hawaiisakuracenter.com](mailto:janetthomas@hawaiisakuracenter.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:40:06 AM

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Janet Thomas  
91-1010 Shangrila Street, Suite 307  
Ewa Beach, HI 96707-2176

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Janet Thomas  
8087828791



**From:** [kstueber@hawaii.edu](mailto:kstueber@hawaii.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 9:00:09 AM

---

Kyla Stueber  
6042 Summer Street  
Honolulu, HI 96821-2379

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Kyla Stueber

**From:** [hi.wellness.services@gmail.com](mailto:hi.wellness.services@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 8:05:11 AM

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Kalei Chandler-Ah Sing  
PO Box 755  
Kailua, HI 96734-0755

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Kalei Chandler-Ah Sing  
18087382099



**From:** [gailsilva003@gmail.com](mailto:gailsilva003@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:45:05 AM

---

Gail Silva  
45-452 Waikalua Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-2790

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Gail D. Silva, Psy.D.  
808-561-0667



**From:** [geniec@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:geniec@hawaii.rr.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 10:50:08 AM

---

Virginia Cynn  
2222 Citron St., #1003  
Honolulu, HI 96826-2857

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Virginia E.H. Cynn, Ph.D.

**From:** [brackengott@gmail.com](mailto:brackengott@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 10:20:07 AM

---

Bracken Gott  
215 Luika Place  
Kailua, HI 96734-3238

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Bracken Gott

**From:** [ayabusaki2@gmail.com](mailto:ayabusaki2@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 10:05:07 AM

---

Ann Yabusaki  
47-670 HALEMANU ST  
KANEEOHE, HI 96744-5512

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Ann Yabusaki  
8083755767



**From:** [drtafujioka@gmail.com](mailto:drtafujioka@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:30:21 AM

---

Terry Ann Fujioka  
79-7460 Mamalahoa Hwy  
Kealahou, HI 96750-7917

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Terry Ann Fujioka, Ph.D.

**From:** [eviey@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:eviey@hawaii.rr.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 6:50:03 AM

---

Evelyn Yanagida  
1 Keahole Place #1504  
Honolulu, HI 96825-3421

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Yanagida  
808-285-2474



**From:** [kellar@hawaii.edu](mailto:kellar@hawaii.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:25:01 PM

---

Michael Kellar  
435E Haleloa Pl.  
Honolulu, HI 96821-2251

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Michael Kellar

**From:** [sjquick@argosy.edu](mailto:sjquick@argosy.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:50:06 AM

---

S. Joy Quick  
44-117 Puuohalai Pl.  
Kaneohe, HI 96744-2545

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

S. Joy Quick, LMFT  
808-347-3986



**From:** [wtsushima@sraub.net](mailto:wtsushima@sraub.net)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:10:03 PM

---

William Tsushima  
Straub Medical Center, 888 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

William Tsushima, PhD  
522-4521



**From:** [darsenault2008@gmail.com](mailto:darsenault2008@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:35:07 AM

---

Darin Arsenault  
POB 17742  
San Diego, CA 92177-7742

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Darin Arsenault  
6199715911



**From:** [afwagner@hawaii.edu](mailto:afwagner@hawaii.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:20:05 AM

---

Allison Wagner  
1315 Kalakaua Ave, Apartment 1808  
Honolulu, HI 96826-1948

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Allison Wagner  
2036676097



**From:** [shayna@lotuspsychologicalservices.com](mailto:shayna@lotuspsychologicalservices.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:50:02 PM

---

Shayna Fujii  
99-080 Kauhale St C20  
Aiea, HI 96701-4114

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Shayna

**From:** [drjanetbrito@gmail.com](mailto:drjanetbrito@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:45:02 PM

---

Janet Brito  
1600 KANUNU ST  
Honolulu, HI 96814

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Janet Brito

**From:** [dawnmontgomerypsyd@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmontgomerypsyd@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 9:35:01 PM

---

Dawn Montgomery PsyD  
1111 Bishop Street Suite 512  
Honolulu, HI 96813-2811

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
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HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Dawn Montgomery, PsyD  
18084920296



**From:** [nicoleknakamura@gmail.com](mailto:nicoleknakamura@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 12:50:07 PM

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Nicole Nakamura  
3660 Waiialae Ave., Suite #208  
Honolulu, HI 96816-3258

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Nicole Nakamura, Psy.D.  
8082778797



**From:** [lucas.morgan@gmail.com](mailto:lucas.morgan@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:55:00 PM

---

Lucas Morgan  
609 Kumukahi Pl.  
Honolulu, HI 96825-1116

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Lucas Morgan, PhD  
8082822564



**From:** [c.kehaulani@gmail.com](mailto:c.kehaulani@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:45:05 PM

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Christina Uemura  
PO Box 334  
Lawai, HI 96765-0334

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Christina uemura

**From:** [bradleyjmac@gmail.com](mailto:bradleyjmac@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:24:59 PM

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Bradley McConnell  
9308 Four Pines Dr.  
Shafter, CA 93263-9430

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Bradley McConnell  
6618055003



**From:** [drgamby@gmail.com](mailto:drgamby@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019 9:05:09 AM

---

Tanya Gamby  
3175 Elua St, Ste C  
Lihue, HI 96766-1203

February 13, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I am writing to you as a Hawaii licensed psychologist and Past President of the Hawaii Psychological Association. I have over twenty years of experience doing ABA/early intervention with children with autism. The ABA models that are currently recognized as best practice for children with autism are based on the pioneering work of Dr. Lovaas and his colleagues. Before moving back to Hawaii, I was the Associate Clinical Director for the Lovaas Institute (and worked directly with Dr. Lovaas); taught ABA classes at UCLA; and was a staff supervisor on the Lovaas Multisite Replication Project. Prior to working at the Lovaas institute, I was a clinic supervisor for Dr. Tristram Smith's ABA clinic. Dr. Smith is also recognized for his extensive research and clinical contributions in the autism/ABA field. I moved back home to my on Kauai with the intention of offering ABA services to Kauai's children and have been an autism consultant for Kauai's Department of Education since 2007. I also have my own private practice. However, despite having over 20 years of experience and being a supervisor and researcher in some of the top ABA clinics in the world, misinterpretations of the current law is restricting my ability to provide comprehensive services to children with autism. Thus, I strongly support clarifying all legislation to recognize that appropriately trained psychologists and their supervisees are an essential part of quality, comprehensive treatment for children with autism.

Thus, I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Tanya Gamby, PhD  
8083461939

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 10:22:37 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Naomi Tachera	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

HB1269 OPPOSITON

Aloha,

I appreciate the opportunity to submit written testimony on this measure. I am a mother with two young sons with autism spectrum disorder currently receiving applied behavior analysis (ABA) through their respective health insurance plan by licensed behavior analyst. Not once when I inquired about receiving ABA for my children did any medical professional refer a psychiatrist or advanced practice registered nurses with a specialization in psychiatry. In fact, in 2013 if you did a web search like me for ABA providers in our state you would find BCBA's and some psychologists, so why in 2019 others are now claiming to be ABA competent. My children's future depend on the medical treatment package designed and implemented by professionals with demonstrated competency in ABA. The bill attempts to expand the provider network to decrease wait lists. We do need to remove barriers. Extending the provider network to professionals who do not have ABA in their scope, however would create new concerns for consumers and place this vulnerable population at greater risk of harm, which we do not believe is the intention of the Committee Chair. In regard to HB1269, I stand in OPPOSITION of this measure.

I am so very grateful for your support, vigilance, and advocacy of our most vulnerable disabled population.

Mahalo nui loa,

Naomi Tachera, M.A Exceptional Student Education/Applied Behavior Analysis

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 9:38:02 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dawna Moody	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

My son had Autism and we had no real help for him 40 years ago. My grandson has now been diagnosed with Autism, and it's wonderful that there are so many people that want to provide support for him, but I have seen the difference in him before he was receiving ABA therapy from a LBA, and after he was able to take advantages of those services. They have changed his life and they have changed the dynamics of his whole family for the better. Please help make sure our children have the most appropriate help, provided by properly trained and licensed individuals. This is so important. Thank you!

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 9:59:11 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyle Moody	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I understand the desire to decrease wait lists for clients with Autism by adding more people to the pool of providers, but what we need is to train more people properly, rather than adding untrained professionals to the list. ABA is not something just anyone can do, it takes a well trained, caring, ethical professional to do the job right, and that's what our keiki deserve. Please continue to help our children by making sure they can get the care they so desperately need; given to them by properly trained people. Thank you for your hard work!

**From:** [samantha.k.beaumont@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.k.beaumont@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 11:05:07 PM

---

Samantha Beaumont  
1333 Pueo St  
Honolulu, HI 96816-5011

February 13, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Samantha Beaumont  
8085422599

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 6:11:37 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
maile rogers	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I understand the desire to increase the number of providers available. We were on several waitlists for my son to receive ABA therapy. But while we were waiting, we went to psychologists, psychiatrists, play therapists, and neurofeedback, looking for any help we could find, and ALL of them said ABA therapy provided by a licensed behavior analyst was what my son needed. I didn't realize, until we started ABA therapy, how right they were, and how different the therapy was when it was provided with a licensed, ethical professional. Please do not allow untrained and unqualified people to practice ABA therapy. Yes our kids need help now, but it's much better to wait and have the right help. Thank you for all of your hard work for our keiki.

**kobayashi1 - Melvia**

---

**From:** donnalenes@hotmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 4:50 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269

Donna Sing  
POB 10305  
Honolulu, HI 96816-0305

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Donna Sing  
8087346012

**From:** [rsconcepcion@gmail.com](mailto:rsconcepcion@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 1:25:22 PM

---

Richelle Concepcion  
565H Mananai Place  
Honolulu, HI 96818-5318

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Richelle Concepcion

**From:** [drmarieterry@gmail.com](mailto:drmarieterry@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:40:00 PM

---

Marie Terry-Bivens Psy. D.  
4401 Kapuna Rd  
Kilauea, HI 96754-5524

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I live on the island of Kaua'i and have been diagnosing autism and providing services to those with autism and their families for over 20 years. Previously I trained at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women and Children where I was taught by arguably the best child psychologists in Hawaii to provide these services. I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education with whom I have had a contract for 19 years have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Marie Terry-Bivens, Psy. D.  
808-332-8787

**From:** [junewching@gmail.com](mailto:junewching@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:45:05 PM

---

June W J Ching PhD  
1833 Kalakaua Avenue, Ste. 800  
Honolulu, HI 96815-1528

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

June W J Ching, PhD, ABPP  
808-949-9502



**From:** [ivan.irie@gmail.com](mailto:ivan.irie@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:45:00 PM

---

Ivan Irie  
730 Hausten St., Apt. 1  
Honolulu, HI 96826-3092

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Ivan Irie  
8083210712



**From:** [cynthia0537@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cynthia0537@sbcglobal.net)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 1:20:05 PM

---

Cynthia Tucker  
354 Uluniu Street, Suite 410  
Kailua, HI 96734-2534

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Cynthia F Tucker PsyD

**From:** [chgett@gmail.com](mailto:chgett@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 3:20:15 PM

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Christopher Gettman  
430 Lewers St #22E  
Honolulu, HI 96815-2421

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Christopher Gettman  
808-551-9281

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 6:18:18 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeanette White	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My son receives ABA services and while many people are on waitlists, it is because barriers exist elsewhere. There are already provisions in existing law to cover all qualified individuals that should be providing ABA.

The answer to a long waitlist should not be to allow anyone that purports to perform ABA properly to do so on my son and anyone like him without consumer protection. I stand in opposition of Hb1269 as it is written. Please protect our children.

Thank you for your time,

Jeanette White

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 8:43:16 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joelle Branch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a mom of a 19 yo son with autism, we need the support from people of all disciplines to have the ability to work together to ensure the best outcomes for our loved ones.

**From:** [mmm\\_3x@msn.com](mailto:mmm_3x@msn.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019 3:05:06 AM

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mark matsushita  
95-1030 F Ainamakua Drive  
Mililani, HI 96789

February 13, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

mark matsushita  
8084296707

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 8:22:49 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kenichi Yabusaki	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

My name is Kenichi Yabusaki and support HB1269. I am in favor that qualified psychologists should be able to conduct Behavioral Analysis to those individuals that may need this type of treatment. Thank you for your support.

Kenichi Yabusaki, Ph.D.

**From:** [donnachristine.mabuti@student.chaminade.edu](mailto:donnachristine.mabuti@student.chaminade.edu)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 5:10:08 PM

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Donna Christine Mabuti  
2342 Pio Place  
Honolulu, HI 96819-2556

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Donna C Mabuti

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/12/2019 6:25:47 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tyler Rogers	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

My son was diagnosed with Autism during the first month of Kindergarten. Even with that diagnosis, we had to fight with the school for 18 months, and then file due process before they even did the initial evaluation for DOE SpEd services. In the interim, my son got "help" from the general education teacher, school counselor, vice principal, principal, school psychologist, clinical psychologist, and school-based behavior health specialist. None of them understood my son, understood ABA therapy and the necessity for it, or understood Autism as a spectrum disorder. Please don't allow more unqualified professionals to provide services to our keiki who deserve better. Thank you so much for all your hard work on behalf of our keiki.

**From:** [drstephenchoy@hotmail.com](mailto:drstephenchoy@hotmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019 7:10:14 AM

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Stephen Choy  
1314 a king st 720  
Honolulu, HI 96814-1942

February 13, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Stephen Choy phd  
808 5938484

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 8:47:29 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Burdt	Individual	Oppose	No

## Comments:

I oppose the proposed amendments in this bill. Having been an original supporter and proponent of passing autism insurance reform in 2015, it is disheartening to see this bill with the proposed amendments to decrease the rigor for "autism service providers," and the potential to expose children with autism to decreased quality services. I respectfully ask this committee to vote no on this bill.

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 7:07:23 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerilyn Pinnow	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

My son, LUKE fought hard to receive ABA services for himself and many others. The bill attempts to expand the medical ABA provider network to decrease wait lists. We do need to remove barriers. Extending the provider network to professionals who do not have ABA in their scope, however, would create new concerns for our consumers and place this vulnerable population at greater risk of harm, which we do not believe is the intention of the Committee Chair. I stand in opposition of HB1269 as it is written. I have testified in the past about what I called the "snake oil providers" please do not hurt our children. I have seen it first hand when good willing people/professionals try to help without the necessary skills!

**From:** [dr.greta.kugler@gmail.com](mailto:dr.greta.kugler@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 3:15:16 PM

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Greta Kugler  
4-1101 Kuhio Hwy Unit 1271  
Kapaa, HI 96746-4651

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Greta Kugler, Psy.D.  
8084824998

**From:** [drjannamadeira@gmail.com](mailto:drjannamadeira@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 12, 2019 2:00:08 PM

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Janna Madeira  
45-735 Kamehameha Hwy  
Kanehoe, HI 96744-2954

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Dr. Janna Madeira  
8085549475

**From:** [oliveiraj009@gmail.com](mailto:oliveiraj009@gmail.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Monday, February 11, 2019 8:15:01 PM

---

Jill Oliveira Gray Ph.D.  
326A Iolani Ave.  
Honolulu, HI 96813-6110

February 12, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

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Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Jill Oliveira Gray, Ph.D.  
8083499267



**LATE**

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Committee Members,

Thank you for hearing HB1269. I strongly support this bill. By expanding the groups of professions with adequate training this will significantly improve access to care. Mahalo.

Cindi Dang, Psy.D.

**LATE**

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/13/2019 10:07:26 PM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodee Haole	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
NOTICE OF HEARING

**LATE**

DATE: Thursday, February 14, 2019  
TIME: 9:31 a.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 329

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

Bill: HB 1269

Relating to the practice of behavior analysis.

Position: **Oppose HB 1269**

Act 199, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, otherwise known as Luke's Law, established the behavior analyst program within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and created licensing requirements for behavior analysts. Licensing of behavior analysis services was made concurrent with mandated insurance coverage for diagnosis and treatment related to autism disorders, with which nearly 1,500 public school students are currently diagnosed. Currently in the Senate **SB 341**, is language we agree with along with the HIDOE and HABA. It makes minor changes in the dates to clarify that teachers are able to implement ABA plans.

The practice of behavior analysis includes the empirical identification of functional relations between behavior and environmental factors, known as functional assessment and analysis, as well as the use of contextual factors, motivating operations, antecedent stimuli, positive reinforcement, and other consequences to help people develop positive behaviors.

Act 107 of 2016 allowed the DOE until 2019 to ensure that registered behavior technicians are licensed and employed throughout the department, but this act, which amended Luke's Law, was never intended to permit teachers to design or monitor applied behavior analysis plans. Teachers may only implement such plans under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst and according to a student's individualized education program, since designing and monitoring behavior analysis plans are not a practice included within the scope of a teaching license.

If this bill, HB 1269 passes into state law, it will not only be problematic but allow unethical practice of allowing behavior analysis to be conducted by unqualified individuals, whose time is better spent on the professions for which they've been rigorously trained and certified.

Mahalo,

Ken Farm



**LATE**

February 13, 2019

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair  
House Committee on Health

Re: HB 1269 – Relating to Autism Spectrum Disorders

Dear Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi, and Committee Members:

Hawaii Medical Service Association (HMSA) appreciates the opportunity to testify on HB 1269, which clarifies the professionals who may administer autism treatment under mandated insurance coverage established by Luke’s Law.

HMSA understands the need to increase the provider base, to eliminate waitlists for Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) treatment. However, we have serious concerns with the new statutory material being introduced by this bill. This measure fails to incorporate any clear quality standards around adequate training and competence for those professions that are included in the definition of an “Autism service provider”.

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), Inc., currently referenced in Statute, provides clear standards and assures that people who receive this credential have met and continue to maintain the standards set forth by the board, which includes ethics and continuing education. This bill lists professions that are licensed, that may be tangentially related to autism treatment, but have no clear standards for the implementation of ABA. ABA that is not performed well can be very detrimental to an autistic individual and have long lasting effects. The current Statute assures this protection to consumers, by holding those professionals rendering ABA services to measurable standards.

HMSA has been working with the Hawaii Psychological Association to develop a pilot program that we believe has the same intent that this bill sets out to accomplish, which is to ensure adequate access to necessary ABA services for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders, by qualified, licensed, professionals that meet the standards set forth by the BACB, Inc.

As we believe this bill is unnecessary we ask that it be deferred. Thank you for allowing us to express our concerns regarding HB 1269. Your consideration of our comments is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Pono Chong  
Vice President, Government Relations

**LATE**

Testimony of  
Joy Barua  
Senior Director, Government and Community Relations & Community Benefit

Before:  
House Committee on Health  
The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

February 14, 2019  
9:31 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

**Re: HB1269, Relating to Autism Spectrum Disorders**

Chair Mizuno, Vice-Chair Kobayashi, and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB1269, which clarifies the professionals who may administer autism treatment under mandated insurance coverage establish by Luke's Law.

**Kaiser Permanente Hawai'i offers COMMENTS as follows:**

Kaiser Permanente appreciates the general intent of HB1269 and offers comments. While well meaning, the proposed bill raises concerns which seem to weaken the intention of Luke's Law to provide high quality services for children with autism.

Providing ABA requires many hours of training, observation, and validation. To ensure provision of high-quality services for children with autism, the proposed bill fails to address minimum standards for autism-specific "specialized training or experience", unlike licensed behavior analysts who are required to pass national certification by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB). In addition, there is already a shortage of other licensed behavior health clinicians. Therefore, allowing them to provide ABA or similar autism treatment services would further reduce their availability to treat other conditions.

An unintended consequence of the proposed bill might be that children with autism would have less access to high quality services for children with autism.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments.

**LATE**

**From:** [diana-honeker@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:diana-honeker@hawaii.rr.com)  
**To:** [HLTtestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1269  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 13, 2019 10:50:13 PM

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Diana Honeker  
98-803 Leialii St  
Aiea, HI 96701-2749

February 14, 2019

John M. Mizuno  
Chair, House Committee on Health

Dear John Mizuno:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2019

To: COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
Rep. John M. Mizuno, Chair  
Rep. Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

HEARING: Thursday, February 14, 2019, 9:31 a.m., Room 329

RE: Testimony IN STRONG SUPPORT of HB1269  
RELATING TO AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

I strongly support HB1269 which amends "Luke's Law" to clarify that licensed mental health professionals with adequate training and competence from a variety of backgrounds can provide necessary behavioral health services for the treatment of individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The current statute severely limits the number of providers insurance companies are required to utilize to treat ASD in our state and, as a result, severely limits access for many families. Funders, including insurance companies and the Department of Education have been hesitant to pay for these services by anyone other than Licensed Behavior Analysts (LBAs). This bill would help clarify that health plans should cover needed services for individuals with ASD when provided by an expanded pool of competent providers.

Please vote YES on HB1269 to allow greater access to care for these individuals, families, and communities in need of effective services.

Sincerely,

Diana B Honeker, LMFT  
8082941828



**LATE**

Testimony of  
Joy Barua  
Senior Director, Government and Community Relations & Community Benefit

Before:  
House Committee on Health  
The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair  
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair

February 14, 2019  
9:31 a.m.  
Conference Room 329

**LATE**

**Re: HB1269, Relating to Autism Spectrum Disorders**

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An unintended consequence of the proposed bill might be that children with autism would have less access to high quality services for children with autism.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments.

**LATE**

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/14/2019 7:02:30 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-1269**

Submitted on: 2/14/2019 7:07:00 AM

Testimony for HLT on 2/14/2019 9:31:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Maureen mcomas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

We STRONGLY OPPOSE HB1269 regarding proposed changes to Luke's Law .

**LATE**

Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Committee Members,

Thank you for hearing HB1269. I strongly support this bill. By expanding the groups of professions, including Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, with adequate training in behavior functions and positive supports this will significantly improve access to care. Mahalo

Douglas K Dang

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, MFT-436

Hawaii Association for Marriage and Family Therapists, President