

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN LT. GOVERNOR

### STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310 P.O. BOX 541 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 Phone Number: 586-2850 Fax Number: 586-2856 cca.hawaii.gov CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI DEPUTY DIRECTOR

# Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the Senate Committee on Health Monday, March 22, 2021 1:20 p.m. Via Videoconference

### On the following measure: H.B. 471, H.D. 1, RELATING TO BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ahlani Quiogue, and I am the Licensing Administrator of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Professional and Vocational Licensing Division. The Department supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to make permanent the regulation of behavior analysts. The Department supports the bill's intent to make permanent the regulation of behavior analysts to continue protecting the public from the unqualified practice of behavior analysis and from unprofessional conduct by behavior analysts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR



DR. CHRISTINA M. KISHIMOTO SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION P.O. BOX 2360 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96804

> Date: 03/22/2021 Time: 01:20 PM Location: Via Videoconference Committee: Senate Health

Department:	Education
Person Testifying:	Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education
Title of Bill:	HB 0471, HD1 RELATING TO BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS.
Purpose of Bill:	Makes permanent the regulation of behavior analysts. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD1)

### **Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports the intent of HB 471, HD1 to continue the regulation and control of the practice of behavior analysts for the purpose of ensuring continued treatment of individuals with autism and protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare.

The Department is committed to providing quality Applied Behavior Analysis services to our students regardless of the continuation of Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 465D.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

The Hawai'i State Department of Education is committed to delivering on our promises to students, providing an equitable, excellent, and innovative learning environment in every school to engage and elevate our communities. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at www.hawaiipublicschools.org.



Senate Committee on Health Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Monday, March 21, 2021

Re: HB 471 HD 1, Relating to Behavior Analysis

Testimony submitted via Capitol Website

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA) strongly supports HB 471, HD 1, which would make permanent the regulation of behavior analysts under Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 465D.

Since the enactment of the behavior analyst licensure law (Act 199) and autism insurance law (Act 235) in 2015, over 480 behavior analysts have been licensed and over 1500 registered behavior technicians have been credentialed under their supervision in the State. As a result, several thousand keiki and other individuals have received access to applied behavior analysis services. These numbers are continuing to grow to meet the ongoing demand for applied behavior analysis services in the State.

The practice of behavior analysis should continue to be regulated in order to protect consumers from unqualified practitioners, unprofessional conduct, and to ensure high quality services for those who need them. In December 2020, the Auditor released Report No. 20-20: "Sunset Evaluation: Regulation of Behavior Analysts," which supported the continued regulation of the applied behavior analysis profession. The Report specifically found that:

- Licensing requirements governing the practice of applied behavior analysis are reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of those receiving services, and therefore should be maintained. For example, behavior analysts develop and supervise treatment in cases involving aggressive and impulsive behaviors, including physical aggression, property destruction, and self-injury. Licensing the practice of applied behavior analysis protects consumers by establishing certain minimum qualifications, as treatment by unqualified individuals could worsen behavior and result in other negative social outcomes;
- 2. Regulation assures that behavior analysts are licensed professionals providing services that are eligible for insurance reimbursement; and
- 3. Licensing of behavior analysts does not unreasonably restrict entry into the practice of applied behavior analysis in Hawaii and licensing fees cover the cost to administer the program.

# HABA supports HB 471, HD 1, and requests a clean date of 06/29/2021 to ensure the regulation does not lapse.

I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure and thank you for your continued support of our keiki and families.

Mahalo,

Roxanne Bristol President Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis



1200 Ala Kapuna Street + Honolulu, Hawaii 96819 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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

# RE: HB 471, HD1 - RELATING TO BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

# MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021

## COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association <u>supports HB 471, HD1</u>, relating to behavior analysis. This bill makes permanent the regulation of behavior analysts.

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 199, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, 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. Act 205 further clarified the licensing qualifications for those who conduct Functional Behavior Assessments (FBAs), and design and monitor Applied Behavior Analysis ABA) Plans in our state.

Our teachers sometimes need the support of other professionals who support our students with other areas of expertise; this area is one of them. Health plans should cover these services and these services should remain regulated and licensed accordingly. Although teachers are able to implement these plans, they need Licensed Behavioral Analysts or School Psychologists to conduct FBAs and write ABA plans.

To support access to learning experiences of our most vulnerable keiki, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to <u>support</u> this bill.

### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813 Via videoconference

> March 22, 2021 1:20 pm

### SUPPORT of HB 471 HD1

Honorable Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this important bill, HB 471 HD1 relating to behavior analysts.

My name is Kristen Koba-Burdt and I am a licensed behavior analyst living and practicing on Maui. Additionally, I serve as the Autism Speaks Volunteer Advocacy Ambassador for the state of Hawai'i.

I fully support this bill making the regulation of the practice of behavior analysis permanent by removing the sunset. The continuation of the licensure law was supported by the State Auditor's report and ensures the continued consumer protections afforded by this law which is vital for the vulnerable population we serve.

Thank you,

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Kristen Koba-Burdt, BCBA, LBA Autism Speaks Volunteer Advocacy Ambassador DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



Elizabeth A. Char, MD DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

### Testimony in SUPPORT of HB471 HD1 RELATING TO HEALTH.

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, VICE CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: MARCH 22, 2021

Room Number: Via Videoconference

1 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) **SUPPORTS** this Measure.

2 Department Testimony: The subject matter of this measure falls within the scope of the

3 Department's Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) and its statutory mandate to assure a

4 comprehensive statewide behavioral health care system by leveraging and coordinating public,

5 private, and community resources. Through the BHA, the Department is committed to carrying

6 out this mandate by reducing silos, ensuring behavioral health care is readily accessible, and

7 person-centered. The BHA's Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD) provides the following

8 testimony on behalf of the Department.

9 The DOH-DDD operates Hawaii's §1915(c) Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services

10 Waiver for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) on behalf of the

11 Department of Human Services, MedQUEST Division. DOH-DDD is committed

12 to quality behavioral interventions. A key intervention is the use of Licensed Behavior

13 Analysts, and Licensed Psychologists working within their respective scopes of practice when an

14 adult participant of the I/DD waiver needs a formal Functional Behavioral Analysis

and oversight for the implementation of a Behavior Support Plan. The DOH supports that the

16 practice of behavior analysis and licensure of behavior analysts should continue to be regulated

to ensure the efficacy of behavior analytic services and access to this much needed resource. The

1	DOH also supports the exemptions in chapter 465D, Hawaii Revised Statutes that help to ensure
2	an adequate workforce for 1915(c) I/DD Medicaid Waiver participants.
3	Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
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<u>HB-471-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2021 5:06:24 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Louis Erteschik	Testifying for Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	No

Comments:

We are in full support.



March 20, 2021

Jarrett Keohokalole Chair, Senate Committee on Health Hawaii State Capitol

Rosalyn H. Baker Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Health Hawaii State Capitol

Hearing Date: March 22, 2021 via Videoconference

Submitted online via the Hawaii State Legislature website

### Re: In Strong Support of HB471 HD1 Relating to Behavior Analysts

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker and members of the committee,

The Council of Autism Service Providers (CASP) is a non-profit association of organizations committed to providing evidence-based care e.g., applied behavior analysis (ABA) to individuals with autism. CASP represents the autism provider community to the nation at large, including government, payers, and the general public. We serve as a force for change, providing information and education and promoting standards that enhance quality.

As highlighted in the December 2020 Hawaii Auditor's Report (no. 20-20), licensing requirements governing the practice of applied behavior analysis protect the health, safety and welfare of those receiving services. CASP concurs with the summary of findings in the auditor's report which supports continued regulation of the profession of applied behavior analysis.

On behalf of CASP, I am writing in strong support of HB471 HD1, which would make permanent the regulation of behavior analysts under chapter 465D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Sincerely,

Mara

Michael Wasmer Vice President of Government Affairs and Special Projects The Council of Autism Service Providers <u>mwasmer@casproviders.org</u> 913-626-0668

## <u>HB-471-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 1:44:22 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lara Bollinger	Testifying for Together For Our Keiki	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lara Bollinger and I am the Vice President for Together For Our Keiki™ (T.F.O.K.). Together For Our Keiki is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to advocate and create a diverse and inclusive community for our keiki by empowering parents and caregivers and educating local stakeholders. We are writing today in SUPPORT OF HB471, which seeks to make permanent the licensure for behavior analysts. As noted in the auditor's report (12/2020) hundreds of behavior analysts have been licensed and thousands of individuals have received access to ABA services since the passage of this law in 2015. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of this measure and thank you for your dedication to our consumers and the profession of behavior analysis.

Mahalo, Lara Bollinger, JD, BCBA, LBA

Vice President,

Together For Our Keiki

www.forourkeiki.com

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/19/2021 3:49:32 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marchet Fullum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB471 HD1 for the continued regulation of behavior analysis.

# <u>HB-471-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 3/19/2021 4:00:09 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dallas Star	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support making Behavior Analyst Licensure permanent and continued regulation of Behavior Analysis.

Our children, vulnerable adults, and families in Hawaii who require Applied Behavior Analysis deserve practictioners that are licensed to provide this service. Our state medicaid and department of education pay for these servies, in addition to private insurance. This law ensures that taxpayer dollars are going to qualified licensed providers and that medically neccesary services are provided by licensed providers.

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/19/2021 4:01:21 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support making the regulation of behavior analysis permanent.

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/19/2021 4:17:38 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eliza Lipp	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support making the regulation of behavior analysis permanent.

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/19/2021 5:02:01 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maile Martin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

• I support HB471 HD1 for the continued regulation of behavior analysis.

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/19/2021 5:33:02 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin Walters	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and the licensure of behavior analysts.

<u>HB-471-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/19/2021 9:29:55 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Josliene Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB471 HD1 for the continued regulation of behavior analysis.

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/20/2021 2:19:49 AM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Pamela Wood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support making the regulation of behavior analysis permanent.

### HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/20/2021 5:58:25 AM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey Krepps	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

# Re: HB 471, Relating to Behavior Analysis

Dear Chair Keohokalole Vice-Chair Baker and members of the Committee:

As a community member and someone who has worked with keiki with autism for over twenty years in the State of Hawai'i, I support HB471. I have been a direct service provider, an operational, business and community leader in various roles supporting children with special needs, By making permanent the regulation of behavior analysts under HRS 465D we will continue the trend of increasing kokua for those with autism and developmental disabilities.

I have seen firsthand how the application of behavioral analysis has professionalized in our state over the last two decades. The quality and accountability of care for those with autism has greatly improved with the certification and subsequent licensure of behavior analysts. Currently, we have protections. Credentials and consumer affairs protect us.

As a result of licensure, several thousand keiki and other individuals have received access to competent and confirmed ABA services. Demand for these services continues to grow. With this demand, the practice of behavior analysis should continue to be regulated in order to protect consumers from unqualified practitioners, unprofessional conduct, and to ensure high-quality services for those who need them.

Thanks for the opportunity to submit testimony and your continuing dedication to individuals in need of professional ABA services, including but not limited to those with special education and behavioral needs, especially those with autism and developmental disabilities.

Thank you.

Jeffrey Krepps

Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i

### HB-471-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/20/2021 4:42:38 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Deborah Krekel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker and members of the Committee:

I would like to offer testimony in **strong support** of House Bill 471 HD1 which makes permanent the regulation of behavior analysts. Effective 1/1/2050.

This bill is important to me because I am a parent of a child with a disability, behavior analyst, and a community stakeholder who is passionate about ensuring that applied behavior analysis services for some of our most vulnerable keiki remain protected. I have worked in the field of education, mental health and behavior analysis for over a decade. Over the years I have seen firsthand how high-quality applied behavior analysis services delivered by licensed and appropriately trained professionals have helped change the quality of life for hundreds of individuals and their families, including my own.

The continued regulation and licensure of behavior analysts would ensure consumer protection and provide much needed access to services for Hawai'i's children and families. This regulation is needed in order to maintain quality services and to ensure the demand for applied behavior analysis is met.

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

Sincerely,

Deborah Krekel

HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/21/2021 8:52:29 AM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Burdt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 471 HD1 for the continued regulation of the practice of behavior analysis.



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roxanne Bristol	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony on HB 471 SD 1. I am a behavior analyst, a parent and a HABA board member. I have had the honor of being a part of this tremendous community since 2016 and have been continually inspired by the passion of the diverse community of professionals supporting applied behavior analysis (ABA) services across multiple settings. This measure is not only important to me as a practitioner of behavior analysis, but also as a member of this community. I have been able to see firsthand how it positively impacts individuals, families, and all recipients of behavior analysis services. I am passionate about disseminating our science and fostering collaboration among our profession to build capacity and continue to support the training, education, and supervision of behavior analyst throughout the state. This measure supports our efforts to meet the growing needs of our community and help to grow future practitioners who are rooted here in Hawaii and understand the unique culture of the individuals and families we support. I strongly support for the regulation of behavior analysis to be permanent as outlined in this measure.

Since the enactment of the behavior analyst licensure law (Act 199) and autism insurance law (Act 235) in 2015, over 480 behavior analysts have been licensed and over 1400 registered behavior technicians have been credentialed under their supervision in the State. As a result, several thousand keiki and other individuals have received access to applied behavior analysis services. These numbers are continuing to grow to meet the ongoing demand for applied behavior analysis services in the State.

# I support HB 471. Please don't let the regulation lapse.

Best,

**Roxanne Bristol** 



Dear members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB471 relating to the practice of behavior analysis.

I want to offer testimony in **strong support** of House Bill 471 relating to Behavior Analysts.

I am a behavior analyst, parent, and concerned member of the community. I support this bill to ensure the regulation of the practice of behavior analysis continues. Since the enactment of the behavior analyst licensure law (Act 199) and autism insurance law (Act 235) in 2015, over 480 behavior analysts have been licensed and over 1500 registered behavior technicians have been credentialed under their supervision in the State. As a result, several thousand keiki and other individuals have received access to applied behavior analysis services. These numbers are continuing to grow to meet the ongoing demand for applied behavior analysis services in the State.

The practice of behavior analysis should continue to be regulated in order to protect consumers from unqualified practitioners, unprofessional conduct, and to ensure high quality services for those who need them. In December 2020, the Auditor released Report No. 20-20: "Sunset Evaluation: Regulation of Behavior Analysts," which supported the continued regulation of the applied behavior analysis profession. The Report specifically found that:

- Licensing requirements governing the practice of applied behavior analysis are reasonably necessary to protect the health, safety, or welfare of those receiving services, and therefore should be maintained. For example, behavior analysts develop and supervise treatment in cases involving aggressive and impulsive behaviors, including physical aggression, property destruction, and self-injury. Licensing the practice of applied behavior analysis protects consumers by establishing certain minimum qualifications, as treatment by unqualified individuals could worsen behavior and result in other negative social outcomes;
- 2. Regulation assures that behavior analysts are licensed professionals providing services that are eligible for insurance reimbursement; and
- 3. Licensing of behavior analysts does not unreasonably restrict entry into the practice of applied behavior analysis in Hawaii and licensing fees cover the cost to administer the program.

# I strongly support HB 471, HD1, and requests a clean date to ensure the regulation does not lapse on 06/30/2021.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure,

Kyle Machos MS., BCBA, LBA



# <u>HB-471-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 1:39:12 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Ebisui	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the continued regulation of the practice of behavior analysis and removal of the sunset for this law.



# <u>HB-471-HD-1</u>

Submitted on: 3/21/2021 2:01:17 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alissa Harris	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a behavior analyst and am writing in strong support of House Bill 471 relating to the continued regulation of behavior analysts within the state of Hawai'i. It is vital that our community continue to receive the highest quality of behavior analytic services. As a professional and a mother I hold strong standards for our field and always want to know those teaching our keiki are ones I would be comfortable to have working with my own child and have gone through the rigorous process to meet such high standards. Thank you for your support in continuing the integrity and quality of behavior analytic services for all parties involved.

Mahalo,

Alissa Harris

LBA#227

March 21, 2021



Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker and members of the Committee

I would like to offer testimony in **strong support** of House Bill 471 relating to Behavior Analysts.

I am a special education teacher and an ABA student in Supervision. This licensure law is important to me because teachers sometimes need the support of other professionals who support our students with other areas of expertise; this area is one of them. Health plans should cover these services and these services should remain regulated and licensed accordingly. Although teachers are able to implement these plans, they need Licensed Behavioral Analysts or School Psychologists to conduct FBAs and write ABA plans.

Since the enactment of the licensure law and autism insurance coverage law in 2015, over 480 behavior analysts and 1400 registered behavior technicians have been licensed or credentialed in the state. Thousands of individuals have received access to applied behavior analysis services. Regulation of behavior analysts is needed to ensure demand for services continues to be met and maintain the quality of services. Continued regulation ensures that behavior analysts are licensed professionals providing services that are eligible for public and private insurance reimbursement.

### I support HB 471. Please don't let the regulation lapse.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of this measure.

Juliana Romero HABA Student Representative, 2021



Senate Committee on Health

March 22, 2021 1:20pm HST

SUPPORT of HB 471

Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for House Bill 471 relating to Behavior Analysts.

My name is Noe Kamalani, and I am a parent, educator, practicing licensed behavior analyst, and member of the Oahu community. Additionally, I serve as the Events Chair for the Hawaii Association for Behavior Analysis (HABA).

I strongly support this bill in removing the sunset, thus making permanent the behavior analyst licensure law. This is important to me as it ensures continued consumer protection for recipients of applied behavior analysis services who are often our most vulnerable community members.

Mahalo,

Kahalenoe Kamalani, BCBA, LBA





Dear Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Baker and members of the Committee:

I would like to offer testimony in **strong support** of House Bill 471 relating to Behavior Analysts.

I am an Assistant Behavior Analyst (BCaBA) and behavior analysis student. As a behavior analysis professional for the past 8 years and student for some of that time, I have witnessed the hard work and dedication that behavior analysts endure in order to ethically practice behavior analysis to the best of their abilities. Through the BACB, behavior analysts work under a code of ethics promoting professionalism, keeping up to date with ABA technologies, and ensuring that those we serve are treated with respect and receive the best services available to them.

The continued licensure of behavioral analysts provides much needed access to services for keiki and other Hawaii residents. Since the enactment of the licensure law and autism insurance coverage law in 2015, over 480 behavior analysts and 1400 registered behavior technicians have been licensed or credentialed in the State. Thousands of individuals have received access to applied behavior analysis services. Regulation of behavior analysts is needed to ensure demand for services continues to be met, and to maintain the quality of services. Continued regulation ensures that behavior analysts are licensed professionals providing services that are eligible for public and private insurance reimbursement.

### I support HB 471. Please don't let the regulation lapse.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of this measure!

Alexandra Sagastume, Marketing Chair Hawai'i Association for Behavior Analysis



HB-471-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/21/2021 9:12:08 PM Testimony for HTH on 3/22/2021 1:20:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leslie Allison Schurtz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support making the regulation of behavior analysis permanent.