

# Responsive Centers for Psychology & Learning

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Chair Vicki Schmidt and Members of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee:

I am offering testimony in support of SB290. I am on of two Psychology members of the Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board. I was also one of four board members who voted against adoption of the Substance Abuse Counselor Regulations at the board meeting last September.

I voted "no" because I believed the regulations did not adequately address the role of psychologists and clinical social workers in the treatment of substance abuse. The regulations set up the likelihood that seasoned professionals would need to obtain supervision from less qualified, less experienced clinicians. One eventual result of such a situation would have been, I believe, a reduction in the options available to the public for substance abuse treatment.

I am impressed by the work of BSRB Executive Director, Tom Hawk, Chair, Gary Price, and the Compromise Committee. The recommendations of the committee, I believe, provide a responsible and practical resolution to the concerns others and I had about the initial regulations.

Sincerely,

Grant Edwards  
Board Member