



February 26, 2026

The Honorable Senator McCray
Maryland State Senate
James Senate Office Building, Room 221
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 898 – SUPPORT AS AMENDED

Dear Senator McCray:

On behalf of the Behavioral Intervention Certification Council (BICC), we write in strong support of Senate Bill 898 as amended.

The Behavioral Intervention Certification Council is a nonprofit credentialing organization dedicated to advancing competency-based standards in behavioral intervention. BICC develops and administers nationally recognized certifications for behavioral technicians and related professionals, grounded in objective eligibility requirements, validated examinations, continuing education standards, and ethical oversight. Our mission is to promote safe, effective, and accessible behavioral services through high-quality credentialing pathways that support both public protection and workforce sustainability.

We appreciate your leadership in advancing policy that supports high-quality applied behavior analysis (ABA) services while ensuring that regulatory requirements do not unintentionally create barriers to care for Maryland families. Thoughtful policy that balances quality oversight with practical workforce realities is essential to sustaining access to medically necessary autism services. Policies that allow individuals to begin supervised service delivery while completing certification requirements help ensure continuity of care without compromising quality.

SB 898 reflects an understanding that certification standards and access to care must advance together. By supporting reimbursement for supervised ABA services and allowing a reasonable pathway to certification, the bill promotes both service integrity and timely access for Medicaid beneficiaries.

BICC respectfully urges support for SB 898 and appreciates your leadership in supporting Maryland families and individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bannat

Sarah Bannat
Certification Program Manager
Behavioral Intervention Certification Council