

BICC Letter in Support.pdf

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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

Letter of Support SB 898 (1).pdf

Uploaded by: Obie Chinemere

Position: FAV



March 2, 2026

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

Re: SB 898 - SUPPORT AS AMENDED

Dear Senator McCray:

On behalf of The Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing Board, we write in strong support of SB898 with the proposed amendments.

Amendment 1 improves clarity and accountability by explicitly naming the Behavioral Intervention Certification and Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing Board in statute and removing the vague reference to “other credentialing entity.” Clear statutory language ensures consistent standards and transparent oversight for professionals serving vulnerable populations.

Amendment 2 advances equity and workforce access by requiring that individuals seeking certification to provide Applied Behavior Analysis services as technicians have access to a Spanish-language version of any accepted national certification examination. If such a version is not available, the Department must work with the credentialing entity or identify an equivalent pathway that provides a Spanish-language examination. The Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing Board already offers a Spanish-equivalent certification examination, ensuring linguistic barriers do not limit access to certification or services. Expanding language access strengthens the workforce and better serves diverse communities.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge favorable consideration of SB898 with Amendments 1 and 2.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:

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Karen Dubon

Executive Director/The Qualified Applied Behavior Analysis Credentialing

