



October 1, 2019

To: Senator MacGregor

From: Michigan Behavior Analysis Providers (MiBAP) Association

Senator MacGregor,

In response to recent discussions regarding boilerplate language for SB. 138, Sec. 924, for Budget FY 2019-2020, the Michigan Behavior Analysis Providers Association (MiBAP) would respectfully like to comment on what we feel would be the most appropriate wording of any possible amended budget language. Currently, Sec. 924 of the FY 2019-2020 language reads as follows:

Sec. 924. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for autism services, for the purposes of actuarially sound rate certification and approval for Medicaid behavioral health managed care programs, the department shall maintain a fee schedule for autism services reimbursement rates for direct services. Expenditures used for rate setting shall not exceed those identified in the fee schedule. The rates for behavioral technicians shall not be more than \$55.00 per hour.

The above language was amended from the FY 2018-2019 language in a significant manner, which we feel could be detrimental to the Community Mental Health organizations, providers, and ultimately consumers. Specifically, the 2018-19 language read, in part, that "[...] rates for behavioral technicians shall be reduced by 10% of the 2017 autism fee schedule but shall not be less than \$50.00 per hour." This language helped to ensure consistent budgeting for Community Mental Health agencies and to promote stability within the provider network, thereby facilitating access to autism services for some of our states most vulnerable children and families.

To best support the continued success of the Autism Benefit in meeting consumer needs and network adequacy, we believe that Sec. 924 of FY 2019-2020 should be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 924. From the funds appropriated in part 1 for autism services, for the purposes of actuarially sound rate certification and approval for Medicaid behavioral health managed care programs, the department shall maintain a fee schedule for autism services reimbursement rates for direct services. Expenditures used for rate setting shall not exceed those identified in the fee schedule. The rates for behavioral technicians shall not be less than \$50.00 per hour.

MiBAP would like to thank the Legislature for its consideration and support of the Autism Benefit Program.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael F. Dow".

Michael F. Dow
President, Autism Centers of Michigan
MiBAP President

Michigan Behavior Analysis Providers Association (MiBAP) Board Members



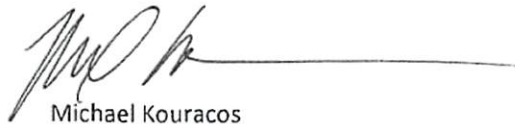
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