



# **HB 5044: What Families Need to Know and Do**

## **PARENTS CALL TO ACTION**

Michigan lawmakers are considering **House Bill 5044**, which would ensure students can receive medically necessary care like Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) during the school day when prescribed by a licensed healthcare provider.

This bill directly impacts your child's ability to access care without sacrificing time in the classroom. Your voice can help move this forward.

## **Why This Matters for Your Child**

### **1. Inconsistent School Policies are Limiting Access**

Right now, schools across Michigan vary widely in whether they allow ABA during the school day. This can lead to:

- Denied or reduced therapy
- Missed instructional time
- Conflict between families and schools

### **2. Families are Forced to Choose Between Care and Education**

Many families must:

- Pull children out of school for therapy
- Reduce medically necessary services
- Navigate unclear or inconsistent rules

This creates unnecessary barriers to both health and learning.

### **3. ABA is Medically Necessary**

ABA therapy is:

- Prescribed by licensed healthcare professionals
- Evidence-based for autism
- Most effective when delivered in real-world environments like school



## What HB 5044 Will Do

If passed, HB 5044 will:

- Require schools to have clear, written policies allowing medically necessary treatment
- Ensure collaboration between providers and school staff
- Require schools to respond to requests within 30 days
- Require approval unless there is a significant burden or disruption
- Provide parent rights and an appeal process
- Increase transparency through annual reporting

Importantly, the bill:

- Does **NOT** require schools to provide therapy
- Does **NOT** change special education services
- Does **NOT** require additional state funding

## How You Can Take Action

### 1. Contact Your State Legislator

Share Your Story and Tell them

- You support **HB 5044** and why
- Your child needs access to medically necessary care during school and the challenges you have faced accessing ABA during school hours
- No family should have to choose between **education and healthcare**
- **Ask them to VOTE YES on HB 5044**

Find your legislator:

- State Representative: <https://www.house.mi.gov>
- State Senate: <https://tv.senate.michigan.gov/senators/all-senators/>

### 2. Spread the Word

Personal stories are powerful. Consider sharing:

- Challenges accessing ABA during school hours
- Missed school or therapy time
- Impact on your child's progress



## **Your Voice Matters**

Families have the power to shape policy. When parents speak up, lawmakers listen.

HB 5044 is a commonsense, compassionate solution that ensures that children receive the care they need where they learn best.

## **Questions or Support**

For more information contact: Michigan Behavior Analysis Providers Association (MiBAP)

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