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June 3, 2019

Chairman Scott Oelslager
House Finance Committee

Re: House Bill 80

Dear Chairman Oelslager,

I am writing you regarding House Bill 80, specifically related to PTSD for first responders. In situations where evaluation of a first responder was to occur, the evaluation would be conducted by a state licensed clinician who is additionally certified by the Bureau of Workers Compensation to determine if the diagnostic criteria for posttraumatic stress disorder are met, and that the related symptoms are due to experiences which occurred in the work setting. Such a diagnosis would be made only when clear evidence of the disorder is present and has arisen out of their employment activities.

By approving the bill, first responders would more readily be able to obtain helpful and often necessary support from experienced licensed professionals, and ultimately be better able to perform their duties in spite of the stressors associated with the critical roles they serve within the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick S. Yingling, Psy.D.", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

Patrick S. Yingling, Psy.D.

Licensed Psychologist