

61st House District

Knox County
Delaware County

Columbus Office

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Beth Lear State Representative

Committees

Vice Chair Energy and Natural
Resources
Primary and Secondary Education
Ways & Means

Chair Manning, Ranking Member Robinson, and fellow members of the Primary and Secondary Education Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to this legislation along with Joint Sponsor Representative Fowler Arthur. First, I want to note that I am grateful to be promoting this important fix to the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship and the Autism Scholarship because, like my Delaware County predecessor Jon Peterson, I too have family members who require IEPs. Like all students with special needs who have taken advantage of the scholarships Ohio offers, my grandsons would benefit from the changes in this bill if they lived here in Ohio.

Rep. Fowler Arthur covered the first part of the legislation, so I am going to cover the second. In addition to expanding telehealth coverage, this bill requires these credentialed professionals to be included by the State Board on their approved list of those who can provide support for approved special education programs:

- A behavior analyst certified by a nationally recognized organization;
- A behavior analyst certified in Ohio;
- An Ohio licensed psychologist;
- An independent school psychologist or school psychologist licensed to practice in Ohio;
- Any person supervised by the aforementioned types of psychologists with specific tasks related to the student's IEP;
- People who are unlicensed but DEW-approved with doctorates in special education or psychology;
- A registered behavior technician working under the supervision of a certified behavior analyst;

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- An Ohio licensed occupational therapist;
- An Ohio licensed speech-language pathologist;
- An intervention specialist with a valid license from the State Board;
- A literacy intervention specialist recognized by the Dyslexia Committee; and
- Another other qualified individual as determined by the Department.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this legislation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Lear".

Beth Lear

State Representative