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Daniel Collins, J.D.  
North Carolina Psychology Board  
895 State Farm Road, Suite 101  
Boone, NC 28607

Dear Mr. Collins:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support of the proposed rule change under 21 NCAC 54.2008 regarding the supervision requirement for Psychological Associates. I have been licensed as a Psychological Associate in North Carolina since 2007, and it has been a hardship to maintain compliance with this rule for so many years. It is an expense that has only been covered by an employer if there happens to be a fellow employee who is qualified to serve as a supervisor, and who is also willing to provide the service to me along with their regular job responsibilities. For most of my career, it has been an out-of-pocket expense. Further, in employment situations, my supervisor for the Psychology Board has not also been my supervisor for the job I was doing; thus, there have been times when I have had to meet with two different supervisors to fulfill the requirements of both the employer and the Board.

I fully recognize the importance of seeking consultation or supervision in our field, and my ethical standards would guide me to seek support on my own, as needed. It is the practice typically followed by my fellow Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Clinical Social Workers. I believe that I received high quality education and training that was equal or superior to other mental health professionals I have met, yet there have been times I have been questioned or deemed unqualified because I do not have an "independent license."

I am hopeful that this rule change will pass, and that after all my years of experience I will be allowed to operate independently and use my professional judgment to decide when to seek support and guidance.

Sincerely,

 MA, LPA

Holly Goliwas, MA, LPA