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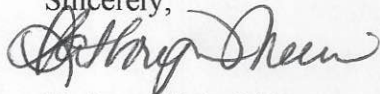
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to support the proposed rule change under 21 NCAC 54.2008. I have a Masters in Clinical Psychology and have been practicing as a Licensed Psychological Associate for 20 years. I have a wonderful supervisor who has become a cherished friend over the years. While I love seeing this person each month and his advice is helpful, the professional necessity of this contact ended long ago.

I have colleagues who are social workers and counselors, providing the same service that I do and they do not have to pay to be "supervised." I work independently and have for 15 years. The monthly contact I have has a minimal, if not non-existent, impact on my professional skill. The only impact it has on me is the expense.

LPAs are accountable to the same licensing guidelines as Licensed Psychologists. Does it not seem reasonable that after years of practice and supervision that we would be trusted in the same respect as Licensed Psychologists? If my skill and knowledge is trusted the 40 hours each week that I am engaged in psychological practice, then it seems a bit unreasonable to assume that the 1 hour/month I am actually being supervised is protecting the public. The only benefit to monthly supervision that I can identify is the money I pay to the psychologist who serves as my supervisor. His time is valuable, so I have no problem paying for it. My issue is the system that makes it necessary.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Muir, MA